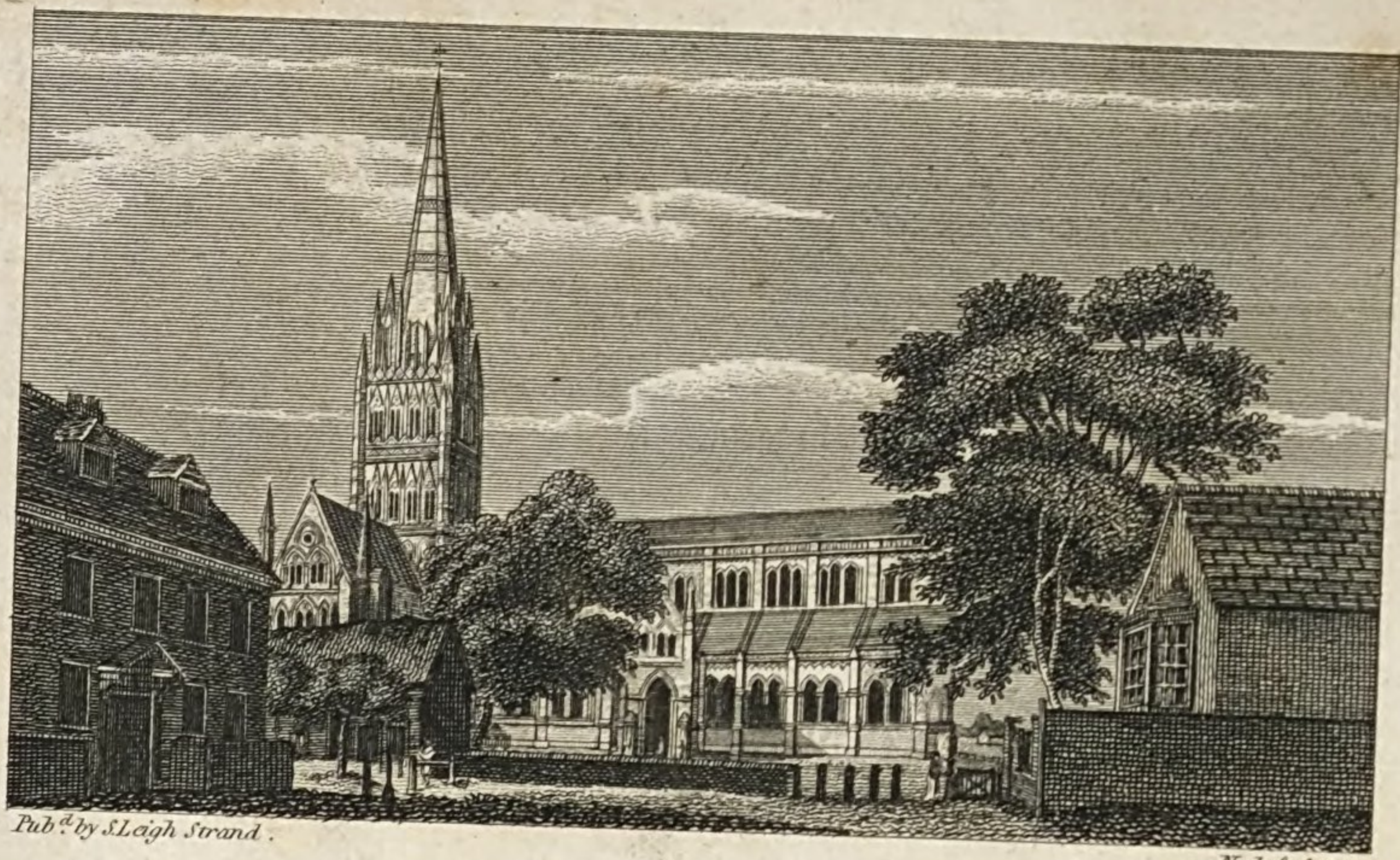
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SALISBURY CATHEDRAL.

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LEIGH'S

NEW PICTURE

OF

ENGLAND AND WALES,

COMPREHENDING

A DESCRIPTION OF THE PRINCIPAL TOWNS, ANCIENT REMAINS,
NATURAL and ARTIFICIAL CURIOSITIES, SOIL and PRODUCE,
AGRICULTURE, MANUFACTURES, RIVERS and CANALS,
PRINCIPAL SEATS, BATHING PLACES,

ALSO,

HISTORICAL & BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICES,

AND

A Synopsis of the Counties. &c.

EMBELLISHED WITH NUMEROUS VIEWS,

AND

A CORRECT GENERAL MAP.

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR SAMUEL LEIGH, 18, STRAND,
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INTRODUCTION.

A FAITHFUL and comprehensive Description of the Counties of *England* and *Wales*, has long been a desideratum in the literature of this country. The achievement of such a work far exceeds the ambition or temerity of the editor of the present publication. The greater and more valuable portion of a long life has been expended by an intelligent individual in the compilation of topographical materials for the delineation of a single county; therefore, when local topography requires such lengthened exertion, the patience and perseverance of an individual, striving to produce a correct, though brief, outline of the more remarkable features of England and Wales must be permitted to deprecate criticism, and escape censure. The Editor founds all his hopes of approbation on the liberality of a discerning public. Compiled from scattered and voluminous publications, this work professes to be a *Picture of England and Wales*, in which

the bold outline, with the principal lights and shades have been more regarded than minute tints; it is therefore more calculated to attract the attention of the general observer, than to interest the profound antiquary, historian, or politician. In works of this description, the vicissitude of human institutions renders minor inaccuracies unavoidable. In the arrangement of materials, the Editor has exercised his best judgment, and has allotted to each subject that space, which its relative importance appeared to demand. Those, who are deeply impressed with the important advantages of education, will not think that too much space has been appropriated to the two Universities, and other noble monuments of Piety and of Learning: in describing their respective merits, the distinguished names of their founders and architects have not been omitted. The natural and artificial curiosities, which have attracted notice, and elicited admiration from natives and foreigners, possess a due portion of the following pages; and many places, which are now of inconsiderable consequence, are pointed out as the interesting theatres of important historical events. The introduction of the synopsis at the begin-

ning of each county, has removed the dryness of statistical detail, and afforded room for more interesting matter; distinguished characters, who have contributed to the diffusion of knowledge, required, and have received a brief acknowledgment. The population and number of houses in counties and towns, have generally been taken from the Census, published by Parliament; but as these statements are rendered unsatisfactory by continual fluctuation, more correct information has sometimes been obtained from other authorities. In acknowledging obligations to various sources, from which important aid has been derived, the Editor confesses himself indebted to the *Beauties of England and Wales*, the *Agricultural Surveys*, various *County Histories*, of recent date, *Topographical Dictionary*, *Gazetteer of England and Wales*, *Itinerary of England and Wales*, *England Delineated*, and various other publications of topographical, historical, and statistical celebrity.

The description of soil and produce, commerce and manufactures, rivers and canals, contained in this volume, cannot fail to convey a lively idea of the immense resources of

the country. It is confidently presumed that the present publication contains much valuable information; and as a companion to the *New Picture of London and its Environs*, will not fail to interest a large portion of the British Public.

The proprietor has availed himself of the talents of Mr. Sidney Hall to project a series of correct County Maps, the same size as this work, which may be had in a separate volume, with a complete Index of the Towns, Villages, &c.

T. G. B.

ESTATE AGENCY OFFICE,
69, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields.

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Pub.d by S. Leigh Strand. *Neele & Son sc.*

WOBURN ABBEY.

NEW PICTURE

OF

ENGLAND AND WALES.

BEDFORDSHIRE.

Length 33 miles. Breadth 18.—Circumference 145.—Square miles 430. Square acres 275,200. Hundreds 9. Market-towns 10. Parishes 124. Houses 13,644. Persons 70,213.—Diocese of Lincoln.—Norfolk Circuit.—Members to Parliament 4.—Militia Men 400.

THE BOUNDARIES of this county are very winding and irregular. Those created by nature are, the river Ouse for a short distance on the east and west, and a rivulet on the south-west border. On the north it is bounded by the shires of Northampton and Huntingdon; on the east by the latter, and that of Cambridge; on the south and south-east by Hertfordshire; and on the west and south-west by Buckinghamshire. The air is pure and healthy; and the land, which is in general a deep clay, produces excellent wheat and barley; butter, vegetables, woad, and fuller's earth are also articles of traffic. The river Ouse, which is navigable from Lynn to Bedford, conveys to this county all kinds of heavy goods, particularly coals.

SOIL.—Some very rich dairy ground, terminated on the north by sandy hills, extends in a line from the middle of the county, to the south-east corner; the western side is mostly flat and sandy, which nevertheless, being cultivated in the Norfolk mode, produces great quantities of beans. The soil on the north and north-east is a deep loam, capable of producing good crops of corn, particularly barley. Until the system of enclosures be more prevalent, the soil of this county will in many places be

comparatively unproductive. Many fine woods are interspersed throughout the county, and occasional falls of timber are conveyed by the Ouse to the sea-coast.

AGRICULTURE.—The husbandry of this county has been of late years very much improved by the exertions and examples of the late and present Dukes of Bedford, the late Lord Ossory, Mr. Whitbread, and many other private gentlemen. By their united influence a most laudable emulation has been excited among the farmers in their respective neighbourhoods, the good effects of which are already become visible. The qualities of kine, horses, sheep, hogs, &c., have been greatly improved by the introduction of the breed of other counties; and the amelioration of the land has kept pace with the improvement of the cattle. The commodious farms round Woburn are well deserving attention. The traveller, who seeks for improvement in the knowledge of British husbandry, will visit them with satisfaction and advantage. The Park Farm more especially merits the attention of every man who feels interested in the advancement and perfection of the important science of agriculture. Every ingenious contrivance to shorten labour, or invention to facilitate useful operations, are here concentrated. The farm originated with the late Duke of Bedford, through whose patronage and praiseworthy exertions many improvements have been made in the different branches of husbandry. Great quantities of vegetables are produced in the parish of Sandy; the whole country for many miles round being supplied with garden-stuff from this quarter; above 150 acres of land are constantly cultivated with carrots, turnips, parsnips, french-beans, cucumbers, &c. The celebrated *Isatis Tinctoria*, or woad, with which the ancient Britons used to stain their bodies, was formerly universally cultivated in this county, but is now totally unknown.

MANUFACTURES and commerce lend a very feeble assistance to the inhabitants of Bedfordshire. The making of lace, straw plat and hats, baskets and toys, are the only employment of the lower classes unoccupied in agriculture. Several waggon-loads of matting, made from the rushes of the Ouse at Stevington, are annually sent to London, where it enjoys a ready sale.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers are the *Ouse* and the *Ivel;* the former enters the county on the west, between the little villages of Brayfield and Turvey, and after a very devious course through many fine meadows, to which its waters give beauty and fertility, passes through Bedford, where it becomes navigable, and then flowing to the east leaves the county at St. Neots, on the confines of Huntingdonshire. This river is remarkable for the slowness of its motion, and for the many windings which it makes in so short a distance. From Turvey to St. Neots is hardly 19 miles, yet the meanderings of the Ouse are supposed to extend to the length of 70. It divides the county into two parts, and in a wet season is liable to sudden and great inundations. The river *Ivel* rises in Hertfordshire, and, flowing to Baldock and Biggleswade, where it becomes navigable, falls into the Ouse a little above Tempsford.

Remarkable Places.

AMPTHILL, 43 miles from London, is a market-town, pleasantly situated between two hills, nearly in the centre of the county. It contains 244 houses, and 1,299 inhabitants. The market is on Thursday.

AMPTHILL PARK, the seat of the late Earl of Upper Ossory. The mansion is a superb edifice, with wings and a flight of steps leading into the hall. It contains a museum of natural history and a handsome library; the apartments are decorated with valuable paintings, by Julio Romano, Palma, Rubens, Vandyck, Caracci, Rembrandt, Teniers, Cuyp, Loutherbourg, Gainsborough, Stubbs, Reynolds, &c. In the old castle, which stood on much higher ground than the present mansion, and then belonging to Henry VIII., Queen Catherine resided during the time her unjust divorce was in agitation before the commissioners at Dunstable. In commemoration of this event, an octagonal cross, with a shield bearing her arms, was erected on the site of the castle by the Earl of Ossory. In the park are some objects worthy attention, particularly the ancient oaks, plantations of firs, and a water view: and Houghton park having been added, makes it a handsome demesne.

BEDFORD, the county town, is 50 miles from Lon-

don, and was under the Saxon dominion, in all probability, a place of great importance; for Offa, the powerful king of the Mercians, chose it for his burial-place. In the year 572, a pitched battle was fought here, between Cuthwolf the Saxon, and the Britons. The Danes, in the reign of Edward the elder, having plundered and destroyed this town, that prince repaired and united it to Mikesgate, a little village on the opposite bank; since that period both places have been called by the general name, Bedford. In the following year, 911, the Danes were severely beaten in this neighbourhood. Subsequent to the Norman invasion, a strong castle was erected on the north-east side of the town, by Pagan de Beauchamp, the third Baron of Bedford; no remains of this castle can now be seen, but the whole circuit may be traced, and the banks on two sides are very bold. This town is situated in a rich tract of land, called the vale of Bedford, whose natural fertility is much increased by the overflowing of the Ouse. The government of the town is vested in a mayor, elected annually on the first Monday in September, recorder, deputy recorder, an indefinite number of aldermen, two bailiffs, and 13 common-councilmen. It sends two members to parliament; the right of election is, nominally, in the burgesses, freemen, and inhabitant householders not receiving alms. The number of voters is about 1,100. The assizes have always been held here, except in the year 1684. This town carries on a considerable trade in coals, timber, malt, and corn, by means of its navigable river. It has several charitable institutions, one of which is a county infirmary. The inconvenient old bridge has given place to a new one; and a new gaol for the county has also been erected; this town contains five parishes, 980 houses, and 4,605 inhabitants.

It has a market on Saturday for corn, and on Tuesday for cattle. The fairs are held on the first Tuesday in Lent, April 21st, July 5th, August 21st, October 10th, and December 19th.

BIGGLESWADE, 45 miles from London, is a large and increasing market-town, situated near the river Ivel, which has been made navigable to the town by act of parliament. Coals, timber, and oats, are the principal

commodities brought by the stream for the supply of this place and neighbourhood. There are two charity-schools, a Baptist meeting-house, and a small manufactory of white thread lace and edging. The king is lord of the manor.

The market is held on Wednesday. Here are four annual fairs, and a statute fair three weeks before Michaelmas. The town contains 384 houses, and 1,895 inhabitants.

DUNSTABLE, 33½ miles from London, is seated near the entrance of the Chiltern Hills, and is a market town, consisting of four principal streets, intersecting each other at right angles. The houses are mostly of brick, and some of them appear very ancient. No water can be obtained from wells at a less perforation than 116 feet, and the soil is nearly destitute of springs. There are two small meeting-houses. The relics of the ancient priory, to be seen in the church, are interesting to the antiquary, as they furnish very early architectural specimens. This town contains 303 houses, and 1,616 inhabitants.

The market is on Wednesday. The fairs, on Ash Wednesday, the 22d May, 12th August, and 12th November. Two miles from this town are the remains of an ancient fortification, called *Maiden Bower*, half a mile from which is a strong fortification named *Tottenhoe Castle*.

ELSTOW, one mile from Bedford, formerly possessed an abbey of Benedictine nuns, founded by Judith, niece to the Conqueror. The church is a very fine structure, and the arch at the north door is beautifully ornamented in the zigzag manner. This was the birth-place of the celebrated John Bunyan.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD, 41 miles from London, is a market town, chiefly celebrated for a handsome pentangular cross, supposed to be nearly 500 years old; about half a mile from the town are the remains of a Roman camp.

The market is on Tuesday. The fairs, 25th January, Whit Tuesday, 26th July, and 24th October. Number of houses, 417. Inhabitants, 2,114.

LUTON, 31½ miles from London, is a long and irregular market town, the houses in general are indifferently built, and the church is the only building worth attention.

Within the church is a singular piece of ancient architecture, an hexagonal font, composed of stone, and enclosed in a lofty wooden frame of pointed arches, terminated with elegant tabernacle work.

The market is on Monday. The fairs on the 25th April, and 18th October. The town contains 753 houses, and 3,716 inhabitants.

LUTON HOO PARK, the seat of the Marquis of Bute; the mansion, standing on an eminence, commands a most extensive prospect; the rooms are hardly to be equalled for grandeur of dimensions and luxury of decoration; the library is inferior only to that at Blenheim; and there is a large collection of paintings by the first masters. The river Lea forms a noble lake, embellished with islands and numerous plantations.

POTTON near Biggleswade, a flourishing market town, containing 270 houses, and 1,154 inhabitants; it is pleasantly situated, although in a very sandy and barren soil; the buildings are modern.

The market is on Saturday. The fairs, on the third Tuesday in January, and July, and on Good Friday.

PUDDINGTON, 13 miles from Bedford, contains two large mansions; one, called Henwick Hall, has a handsome front on the east; each side of the porch and the end of the house is faced with a Corinthian pilaster. The other mansion belongs to the Orlebar family, and contains a good collection of books, particularly in the French and Italian languages. Between Puddington and Henwick, canary birds are frequently seen in the hedges.

SHEFFORD, 41 miles from London, a small market town, stands between two rivulets.

It has a market on Friday, and fairs, January 25th, Easter Monday, May 19th, and October 10th. It contains 123 houses, and 536 inhabitants.

SUTTON, near Potton, was the ancient seat and royalty of the famous John of Gaunt. This living was enjoyed by the celebrated Bishop Stillingfleet, who here wrote his "*Origines Sacræ*," esteemed one of the best defences of Revelation ever published.

SOUTH HILL, the seat of the late Samuel Whitbread, Esq. Considerable improvements have been made upon this estate, which was formerly the seat of the Torrington

family. In the church is an inscription to the memory of the unfortunate Byng.

TODDINGTON, three and a half miles from Dunstable, was formerly a market town, and still has fairs.

The fairs are on the 28th April, first Monday in June, 4th September, 20th November, and 6th December. It contains 259 houses, and 1,182 inhabitants.

WOBURN, 42 miles from London, is a market town. The buildings are mostly modern, and the church formerly belonged to a Cistercian abbey, on the site of which the present magnificent building, called Woburn Abbey, is erected.

The market is on Friday, and the fairs on the 12th and 26th March, 1st July, and 14th September. Number of houses, 299. Inhabitants, 1,506.

WOBURN ABBEY, the seat of the Duke of Bedford, situated in a large park, is an extensive and magnificent mansion. Many of the apartments are embellished with fine paintings, by Poussin, Rembrandt, Murillo, Cuyp, Vetto, Lorraine, Salvator Rosa, Berghem, Titian, and many others of the first eminence. Here are also some excellent statues, an Apollo Belvidere, a group of Cupid and Psyche, &c. The dairy is also worthy of observation; it is built in the Chinese style, and is decorated with painted glass. The country round Woburn presents a wide, open, and rather flat surface; the soil is mostly sand, and generally destitute of trees; yet the Duke's park abounds with wood, and affords many delightful prospects of forest scenery. The park is well stocked with deer, and is surrounded by a brick wall about 12 miles in circumference.

WREST, near Silsoe, was anciently the residence of the illustrious family of the Greys, Dukes of Kent; it is now the seat of Baroness Lucas. The pleasure grounds were considerably improved by the plastic hand of Brown; the serpentine river forms a principal ornament in these grounds, which for beauty, prospect, and extent, have been denominated the Stow of Bedfordshire.

BERKSHIRE.

Length 50 miles. Breadth 6 to 25. Circumference 180. Square miles 741. Square acres 474,160. Hundreds 20. Market towns, 12. Parishes 148. Villages 670. Houses 22,796. Persons 122,300. Diocese of Salisbury.—Oxford Circuit.—Members to Parliament 9.—Militia-men 560.

The BOUNDARIES of Berkshire are very irregular. On the north lie the shires of Oxford and Buckingham; on the east, Surry; on the south, Hampshire; and on the west, Wiltshire. The north-west corner unites with a part of Gloucestershire. The face of this county is agreeably varied with gentle eminences, and the scenery partakes of that character which writers on the picturesque have termed beautiful.

The SOIL is generally fruitful, and the cultivated parts produce excellent grain, especially barley, of which vast quantities are made into malt, and sent to the metropolis. The western and middle parts are usually esteemed the most fertile. The eastern is chiefly occupied by Windsor Forest and its appendages, and contains a very great proportion of uncultivated ground. A range of chalk hills, entering the county from Oxfordshire, crosses it in a westerly direction, and bounds the celebrated *Vale of White Horse*. This county possesses abundance of timber, particularly oak and beech, in the western parts. The valley near Newbury produces luxuriant pasture, but is chiefly remarkable for the vast quantity of *Peat* found in the centre of the vale on each side of the river *Kennet*.

AGRICULTURE is not so much improved in this county as in many others. The neighbourhood of Reading is admirably adapted to the growth of wheat of the finest quality. The farms round Wallingford are considered comparatively large, from 200*l*. to 300*l*. per annum; and are cultivated with turnips, clover, barley, wheat, and oats: formerly CHOLSEY FARM was reputed the largest and most compact in England; a sheep market is held at East Ilsley, which, except that at the metropolis, is supposed to be the largest in England; the annual average of

sheep and lambs sold at this market is upwards of 250,000. They are purchased for the farmers of Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire, in which counties they are fattened for the London market. The village of Basildon has been celebrated for its extent of farms and goodness of soil.

MANUFACTURES are not carried on to a great extent in this county, the inhabitants being principally employed in the various branches of agriculture. There is an extensive manufactory for sail-cloths and other articles of that description at Abingdon. At Reading, there is a considerable trade in timber, hoops, bark, wool, corn, malt, and flour. Upwards of 20,000 sacks of the latter commodity are annually sent to the metropolis.

The RIVERS in this county are, the Thames, the Kennet, the Lamborn, the Ock, and the Lodden.

The THAMES bounds the northern side of Berkshire, with its beautiful windings. It enters the county about a mile south of Lechlade; and in its progress waters the several towns of Abingdon, Wallingford, Reading, Henley, Maidenhead, Windsor, &c.; and having received the homage of various tributary streams, flows between the confines of Surry and Middlesex.

The KENNET enters the county at Hungerford, and passing Newbury, laves the rich meadows on the south with divided streams; then flowing gently through Reading among the adjacent meadows, unites its waters with the Thames.

The LAMBORN rises near the town of that name, and after a short course of eleven miles, falls into the Kennet about one mile below Newbury.

The OCK derives its source from the Vale of White Horse, near Kingston Lisle, and flowing by the town of Abingdon, unites its waters with the Thames.

The LODDEN rises near Bagshot-rails, and passing Oakingham, receives several small streams from the eastern extremity of the county, and empties itself into the Thames near Wargrave.

CANALS have been successfully made in this county. One from the Kennet, below Newbury, to the Avon, at Bath; another from the canal, near Melksham, to Abingdon.

Remarkable Places.

ABINGDON, 55½ miles from London, is a market and borough town. It stands on a branch of the Isis, and derives its name from an ancient abbey founded in 675. This town has often been the residence of the British kings. It consists of several well-paved streets, terminating in a spacious area, where the market, one of the most considerable in England for grain, is held. The summer assizes for the county are held in the market-house, which is erected on lofty pillars, with a hall of free-stone above, and is a very remarkable structure, being built with ashler, or free-stone, rough as it comes from the quarry. The corporation consists of a mayor, two bailiffs, nine aldermen, and sixteen assistants. This borough sends two members to parliament, and every one paying scot and lot, and not receiving alms or any charity, is entitled to vote. It has two churches, dedicated to St. Nicholas and St. Helen.

The market is held on Monday and Friday, and considerable business is transacted in malt. This town possesses 1,020 houses, and 4,801 inhabitants.

ALDWORTH, 10 miles from Reading, is remarkable for its church, which, though not handsome, is extremely old, and possesses nine ancient monuments, which have been much celebrated.

BASILDON HOUSE, erected by Sir Francis Sykes, is a superb structure, built in imitation of Wentworth House, in Yorkshire. The walls of the grand saloon are painted in imitation of basso relievo, and the ceiling is very beautifully ornamented with stucco. In the park are numerous deer, and rich prospects of the windings of the Thames; the grounds display considerable taste; the gardens perfume the air with aromatic shrubs, and the hot-houses teem with the fruits of warmer climates.

BEAUMONT LODGE, once the residence of the late Duke of Cumberland, is a considerable villa, on an agreeable eminence near the Thames, at Old Windsor.

BENHAM HOUSE, one mile from Speen, is the seat of Lord Craven. This house is a regular building of the Ionic order, and stands on a sloping bank, embosomed in

a deep and solemn grove; a handsome sheet of water flows before the mansion. The north side of the grounds is ornamented by woods. The general character of this seat is simplicity and beauty.

BRAY WICK LODGE, near Maidenhead, is a neat edifice, on a gentle eminence, commanding pleasing views of a richly-cultivated district, interspersed with meadows rendered fertile by the waters of the Thames. The prospects are diversified with the town of Maidenhead and village of Taplow, backed by the majestic woods of Cliefden and Hedson, and by Windsor's proud castle and picturesque forest scenery.

CANNON HILL, at Bray Wick, has been much improved, the grounds considerably enlarged and adapted to the modern style of landscape gardening. Some of the views are eminently picturesque, and their general character beautiful.

CAVERSHAM, formerly the property of General Cadogan, the friend and companion of the great Duke of Marlborough, is situated nearly opposite the town of Reading. The house is an elegant building on an eminence, commanding an extensive and diversified view. A beautiful lawn in front of the mansion extends to the river. The gardens are pleasingly laid out; and the park, though not large, has been decorated by the hand of taste. Anne of Denmark, queen of James I., was splendidly entertained in the old house; and Charles I., when a prisoner at Windsor, here paid a melancholy visit to his children.

DONNINGTON CASTLE, near Newbury, seated on an eminence, rears its lofty head above the remains of the venerable oaks which once surrounded it. The ruins of this once great mansion are endeared to posterity not only on account of its former magnificence, but from having been the residence of Geoffrey Chaucer, the father of English poetry.

ENGLEFIELD, situated in a rich valley, five miles from Reading, is celebrated for being the place where King Ethelwolf defeated the Danes in 871, and the entrenchment in the neighbouring meadows is supposed to have been thrown up in commemoration of that event.

Englefield Green, and its neighbourhood, is richly adorned with elegant seats.

FARRINGDON, fourteen miles from Abingdon, is a market town, in the north-west part of the county, situated about two miles from the Thames, on the west side of Farringdon Hill. The church, which stands on the hill, is an ancient and spacious edifice, displaying specimens of different styles of architecture. Robert, Earl of Gloucester, erected a castle here in the reign of King Stephen; but the monarch, after some resistance, reduced and levelled it with the ground. The site was, by King John, in the year 1202, granted to build an abbey of the Cistercian order.

Here is a good market on Tuesday; and fairs on the 13th February, and Whit-Tuesday for pedlary; and on the 29th October a statute fair is held for hiring servants. Here are 347 houses, and 1,843 inhabitants.

FARRINGDON HOUSE, an elegant modern edifice, was built by the late Henry James Pye, Esq., the poet laureat. It stands in a small park, on the north side of the town, the view of which is judiciously excluded by lofty elms, and some plantations, that have lately been made. The grounds are agreeable from their inequality of surface, and sufficiently covered with wood for their confined limits.

FILBERTS, at Hollyport, in the parish of Maidenhead, is famous for being the site on which stood the mansion inhabited by Nell Gwynn, the celebrated mistress of Charles II.; the present building is square and spacious, and ornamented with embattled turrets.

FROGMORE, the favourite residence of the late Queen, is situated about half a mile east of Windsor, and occupies part of a fertile valley, which divides the little park from the forest. An area of thirteen acres is laid out in a beautiful pleasure garden, diversified with a canal winding in different directions; in one part spreading its waters before the front of the house, and again retiring beneath the thick woods. In this sweetly sequestered spot every thing is serene and pleasant. The devious path, the umbrageous thicket, the dilapidated ruin, and secluded temple, all conspire to render it peculiarly interesting.

HUNGERFORD, ten miles from Marlborough, is a small market town, situated at the western extremity of the county, bordering on Wiltshire, and consists principally of one long street. It stands on a marshy soil on the Kennet, and is watered by two separate streams of that river. The church is an ancient structure, situated at the end of a pleasant walk, shaded with high trees, in the western quarter of the town, and appears to have been erected at different periods.

The market is on Wednesday, and the fairs on the 10th August, and the last Wednesday in April. Houses, 438. —inhabitants, 2,292.

HUNGERFORD PARK. The lands surrounding the house, which is a neat mansion in the Italian style, are mostly cultivated; and the pleasure grounds have a neat and agreeable appearance; the south and west sides are clothed with fine woods; the north side, being more open, exhibits a considerable extent of diversified scenery.

HURLEY, four miles from Maidenhead, stands near the Thames, and formerly possessed a priory of Black Monks, some traces of which still remain. The present mansion was erected by a soldier of fortune, Richard Lovelace, who served under Sir Francis Drake, in his expedition against the Spaniards. The hall is extremely spacious, and the grand saloon decorated in a singular style. During the reigns of Charles II., and James, the principal nobility held frequent meetings in a subterraneous vault beneath this house, to concert measures for the re-establishment of public liberty. It is also believed, that the principal papers which produced the revolution of 1688, were signed in the dark recess at the end of this vault.

MAIDENHEAD, twenty-six miles from London, is a market town, on the banks of the Thames. It principally consists of one long paved street. The present consequence of this town may be attributed to the building of the bridge, which is a very commodious structure of thirteen arches; from the centre are seen the hills of Cliefden and Taplow, with their elegant mansions and fine hanging woods, which form a diversified and beautiful prospect. The principal trade of this town is in malt, meal, and timber.

The market is on Wednesday. The fairs, Whit Wednesday, Michaelmas, and St. Andrew's day. In the neighbourhood are several handsome seats.

MONKEY ISLAND, near Bray, derives its name from a small rustic building called Monkey Hall. The sides of this apartment are fancifully painted with monkeys, dressed in human apparel, and imitating human actions. The ceiling and cornice are decorated with resemblances of a variety of aquatic flowers. In another building, named the Temple, is an elegant saloon painted with green and gold, and enriched with figures in stucco superbly gilt.

NEWBURY, a borough and market town, fifty-three miles from London, is situated in a fertile plain, watered by the Kennet, which crosses the town near the centre. The principal streets are disposed nearly in the shape of the Roman Y, the angles branching off from the market-place; and the foot of the letter being formed by the village of Speenhamland. The streets are spacious and well paved. The church is a plain stone edifice, supposed to have been built in the reign of Henry VII. This town was formerly celebrated for its extensive manufactories of woollen cloth, which furnished the inhabitants with employment for several centuries: yet scarcely any thing but serge is now made.

The Town Hall is a handsome structure, built over the market-place, near the bridge, which crosses the Kennet. The corporation consists of a mayor, high-steward, recorder, six aldermen, and twenty-four capital burgesses. The mayor is chosen annually on St. Matthew's day.

During the dreadful contest between Charles I., and his parliament, Newbury became remarkable for being the scene of action in two successive years. The first battle was fought on a common called the Wash, in the year 1643: the other in the fields between Newbury, Speen, and Shaw, in the year 1644; the king commanding his army, on both days, in person.

The market is on Thursday. The fairs on Holy Thursday, Midsummer-day, St. Bartholomew's-day, and St. Simon and St. Jude's. Houses, 1,028.—Inhabitants, 4,898.

OAKINGHAM, 32 miles from London, is a populous market town on the edge of Windsor Forest, consisting of

several streets. The market-house is an ancient building, framed with timber, and open at the bottom, with a hall above, where the public business is transacted. The church is a large handsome edifice. The inhabitants are employed in agriculture, throwing silk, sorting wool, making shoes, gauze, &c. The corporation consists of an alderman, several burgesses, a high steward, a recorder, and a town-clerk.

The market is on Tuesday ; the fairs on Thursday after Shrove Tuesday, April 21, June 11, October 10, and November 2. Houses 435, inhabitants 2,085.

PARK PLACE, the residence of the Earl of Malmsbury, is situated one mile south-east of Henley. The many interesting objects concentrated in this demesne, are calculated to excite even the most latent energies of poetic description. The library is splendidly furnished, and stored with a profusion of choice books. This mansion contains several good paintings by ancient and modern masters. Though the house is not without attractions, yet the most prominent feature of Park Place is its beautiful scenery, diversified with a continued succession of lofty eminences and low valleys. The woods partake of forest wildness, and being mixed with shrubberies, produce the most picturesque and beautiful views.

RADCOT BRIDGE, two miles from Farringdon, is of great antiquity and venerable appearance, and more particularly interesting to the lovers of history. In 1387 a memorable battle was here fought between the Marquis of Dublin, the highly honoured favourite of Richard II. and the discontented Barons headed by the Duke of Gloucester and the Earl of Derby, afterwards Henry IV. The favourite was defeated, and effected his escape only by plunging on horseback into the Thames and swimming across the stream.

READING, a borough and market town, 37 miles from London, has certainly claims to high antiquity, though its origin is unknown. Elfrida, the mother-in-law of Edward the Martyr, founded several religious houses. Among these monuments of her guilt and penitence, was a nunnery in this town, built on the spot now occupied by St. Mary's Church. History records two councils that were held here ; one in the reign of John, by Pandulph,

the pope's legate, the other in the time of Edward I., by Archbishop Peckham. This town is situated on two small eminences, whose gentle declivities fall into a pleasant vale, through which the branches of the Kennet flow calmly till they unite with the Thames at the extremity of the town. The corporation, according to the charter of Charles II., consists of a mayor, a recorder, twelve aldermen, and as many burgesses, from whom the vacancies in the list of aldermen are supplied. This borough has sent members to parliament ever since the 23d. of Edward I. The right of election is in the inhabitants paying scot and lot; and the number of voters exceeds 600. This town contains three churches respectively dedicated to St. Mary, St. Laurence, and St. Giles. The first is regarded as the most ancient, and is generally admired for its tessellated tower. The town-hall is a neat building over the free-school, in form of a parallelogram. The river Kennet separates the town into two parts, and in its passage forms several excellent wharfs.

The market is held on Saturday and Wednesday; the fairs on Candlemas day, May day, and on St. James's and St. Matthew's days. Number of houses 2,032, inhabitants 10,788. The country, in the vicinity of Reading, is embellished with many elegant houses.

ST. LEONARD'S HILL, in Windsor Forest, seems to have been a Roman encampment, many antiquities having been found on it at different times. The elegant villa on this eminence was formerly called Gloucester Lodge. The pleasure grounds and lawns consist of about 75 acres.

SELWOOD PARK. The house is a handsome modern building, situated on a rising ground, and built with brick covered with a composition. Each front is decorated with a portico of lofty composite columns. The interior is commodious, and fitted up with peculiar elegance. The entrance front commands an extensive prospect over a richly-cultivated valley, bounded by the Surry hills; the other front embraces a much richer tract of scenery, enriched by Windsor's majestic forest.

SHAW HOUSE, one mile from Donnington Castle, is a large brick and stone house, celebrated for having

been the head quarters of King Charles at the last battle of Newbury. In an old wainscot of a bay window in the library, is a hole made by a bullet, fired at the monarch while he was dressing himself. The shot narrowly missed him, and the wainscot has been carefully preserved as a memorial of the transaction.

WALLINGFORD, a borough and market town, 46 miles from London, is very ancient, and the buildings low. It was formerly surrounded with walls and had a castle of great strength, whose mouldering ruins, bereft of proud towers and formidable walls, excite no feeling but that of humility. The astonishment formerly impressed by the size and magnificence of this castle is no longer felt; its glories are departed, its importance is no more. The chief trade of this town is in malt and corn.

The market is on Tuesday and Friday; the fairs, Thursday before Easter, June 24, September 29, and December 17; the number of houses 380; inhabitants 1,901.

WAYLAND SMITH, a mutilated druidical remain, is about a mile from White Horse Hill; it is supposed to have been a large cromlech, elevated on a barrow, and surrounded with a circle of upright stones.

WANTAGE, seven miles from Faringdon, rendered memorable from being the birth-place of King Alfred, (whose name no epithet can exalt, whose worth no words can appreciate,) is a market town of considerable antiquity, seated on the skirts of the prolific vale of White Horse. This town was probably of consequence in Saxon times; as it was undoubtedly a royal seat, and appears, together with the surrounding country, to have been the patrimony of the West Saxon kings. A hollow way into the town from Faringdon, Grove Street, a morass and a river, form the sides of an oblong square, containing about six acres of ground. On this spot stood the Saxon palace where Alfred was born.

WHITE HORSE, about three miles from Lamborn, is the most remarkable antiquity in Berkshire: the figure of a WHITE HORSE, formed on the north-west side of a high and steep hill. Its formation is ascribed to the great ALFRED, who ordered it to be made as a trophy of the signal victory which he obtained over the Danes at Ashdown, in the year 871. The horse is portrayed in a gal-

lopping position, on the upper part of a hill, where its steep situation and barren soil furnish complete security against the inroads of the plough, the stagnation of waters, or the grazing of cattle. Its dimensions occupy about an acre of ground ; and its shape is determined by hollowed lines, or trenches cut in the white chalk, between two and three feet deep, and about ten broad. The chalk in the hollowed spaces, being of a brighter colour than the surrounding turf, catches the rays of the sun and renders the figure visible at several miles' distance.

WHITE KNIGHTS, two miles from Reading; the house is a plain white building seated near the centre of the grounds, which are divided by an irregular sheet of water, the lawns gently sloping to the water are agreeably disposed and adorned with venerable groves of oak and poplar. This estate was one of the earliest examples of the Ferme Ornée, and still continues to be a beautiful specimen of the mixture of the agreeable with the useful.

WHITE PLACE, near Hurley, is a neat mansion, and though built entirely with chalk more than 40 years since, has been but very slightly affected by the vicissitudes of weather. It commands many fine views enriched with beautiful woodland scenery.

WINDSOR, 22 miles from London. The earliest authentic information concerning the history of this town, is contained in a charter of Edward the Confessor, by which it was granted, with various other lands, to the monastery of St. Peter, Westminster. This valuable gift continued but a short time in the possession of the abbey. William the Conqueror was no sooner established on the throne, than he observed the beauties of this situation, and quickly prevailed on the abbot to exchange it for certain lands and manors in Essex. Thus it was again vested in the crown, where, with the exception of the time of the Commonwealth, it has ever since remained. Edward I. constituted the town a free borough, and invested its inhabitants with several privileges, which were afterwards confirmed and enlarged by succeeding monarchs.

The corporation consists of from 28 to 30 brethren, 10 of whom are denominated aldermen, the remainder benchers and burgesses. The mayor and justice are annually chosen from the aldermen, and on the same day two bailiffs are

elected from the burgesses. Besides these, the mayor, bailiffs, &c., are empowered to choose a high steward, chamberlain, under steward, town clerk, and other subordinate officers. This borough sends two members to parliament. The right of election was originally vested in the corporation; but this privilege being occasionally contested, was at length overturned, in the year 1690, and the liberty of voting extended to all the inhabitants paying scot and lot.

The market is on Saturday; the fairs on Easter Tuesday, 5th July, and 24th October. Number of houses 1,051; inhabitants 6,155.

WINDSOR CASTLE, the magnificent residence of the British sovereigns, is most delightfully situated on the summit of a hill, whose base towards the north is laved by the pellucid waters of the Thames. The prospects to the east, west, and north, are extensive and beautiful, being enlivened by the windings of the river, and variegated with elegant mansions, luxuriant meadows, and gentle eminences, covered with the rich foliage of innumerable woods.

Windsor Castle owes it origin to William the Conqueror, who erected a fortified mansion or palace on this spot, as a hunting seat. He also designed the parks, extending to the boundaries of the forest, and established rigid laws for the preservation of the game. Henry I. considerably improved the edifice which his father erected, enlarged it with additional buildings, and, for greater security, surrounded the whole with a strong wall. Henry I. held a council or parliament here, in the year 1170. King John resided here during his contest with the barons, who, in the year 1216, besieged it without success. Queen Eleanor, Edward I.'s consort, was extremely fond of this situation, and was here delivered of four children. The heroic *Edward the Third* was also born at Windsor; and to his affection for his birth-place, the castle is indebted for its present magnitude and grandeur. Edward IV. enlarged and re-built the beautiful chapel of St. George. Henry VII. vaulted the roof of the choir of that structure, and erected the spacious fabric adjoining the king's apartments in the upper ward. Henry VIII. rebuilt the great gate in the lower ward. Ed-

ward VI., and Mary his successor, had a fountain of curious workmanship made in the centre of the upper court, to supply the castle with water. Queen Elizabeth raised the noble terrace on the north side, which commands an unbounded prospect over one of the most beautiful valleys in the kingdom. Charles I. made several improvements, and erected a gate leading to the park. Charles II. repaired and embellished the whole structure, decorated the apartments with numerous fine paintings, established a magazine of arms, and continued the terrace round the east and south sides of the upper court. Various alterations have been made by succeeding princes; but the principal improvements during this and the last century, have been effected by the reigning sovereign, whose munificent plans for the embellishment of this structure have far exceeded the designs of his predecessors.

WINDSOR GREAT PARK is embellished with some rich forest scenery, and possesses great diversity and inequality of surface. Many improvements in the state and general appearance of the grounds have been effected. The valleys and low parts have been cleared, to give a bolder effect to the woody scenes on the eminences; and several judicious openings have been contrived to remove the disgusting sameness of parallel lines, and separate the plantations that appeared heavy and formal.

WINDSOR LITTLE PARK, extending on the east and north sides of the castle, was enlarged and enclosed wth a brick wall by William III. It contains about 500 acres, plentifully stocked with sheep and cattle, though but few deer. The ground on the north was laid out as a garden by queen Anne, but has since been levelled, and formed into a spacious lawn. The eminence on the east, which Charles II. converted into a bowling-green, has been considerably lowered in the present reign; the earth taken from the summit was spread on the declivity of the hill, which has been planted with forest trees, and surrounded with a neat paling.

WITHAM, two miles from Hinksey, is seated at the foot of a hill, on the summit of which the massive fragments of a desolated fortress may yet be discovered.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

Length 39 miles. Breadth 18. Circumference 110—748 square miles. 478,720 square acres. 8 hundreds. 15 market towns. 200 parishes. 22,505 houses. 121,600 persons. Diocese of Lincoln—Norfolk Circuit—14 Members to Parliament—560 Militia Men.

THE BOUNDARIES of this county are, on the north, Northamptonshire, on the east the counties of Bedford, Hertford, and Middlesex; on the south, Berkshire, and a point of Surry; and on the west, Oxfordshire.

The limits are mostly artificial; the river Coln, bounding only a small portion of the east side, and the Thames separating it from Berkshire and Surry.

This county contains about 170,000 acres of land, in pasturage, and about 5,000 acres of waste, fit for cultivation, the remainder is arable. The southern part of the county beyond the banks of the Thames, is principally taken up in the Chiltern Hills and their appendages, composed of chalk, and in various parts covered with wood; beyond these the Vale of Aylesbury, occupies the middle of the county; the northern part, on the Bedfordshire border, is a varied country, rising into gentle sand hills. The Chilterns are chiefly a cultivation of barley. The greatest part of the vale is devoted to the grazing of cattle, and the feeding of sheep, a source of much opulence to the landholders, and the dairies supply vast quantities of butter to the metropolis. Fine wheat and other grains are grown in the up-lands. The woods produce great quantities of beech.

The SOIL of this county is principally composed of rich loam, strong clay and loam upon gravel. The Vale of Aylesbury is proverbial for its rich pasturage and amazing fertility. In the vicinity of the Chiltern Hills, the soil is light and thin, with a chalk bottom, and requires much labour and manure to make it productive.

AGRICULTURE.—In this county the effect of circumstances on human habits is forcibly exemplified in the cultivation of the soil. Wherever nature has bestowed unusual fertility, and the produce of the earth can be obtained in the greatest abundance, the natives are invariably found

deficient in industry and skill; such are the farmers in the vale of Aylesbury. The astonishing produce of the meadows in that fertile vale, instead of stimulating the cultivator to greater exertions and enterprise, renders him indolent, and he neglects and despises improvements which would clothe his luxuriant meadows with tenfold verdure.

The picture is reversed when nature bestows her blessings with a sparing hand, and obliges the husbandman to obtain a scanty and precarious harvest with continual industry and multiplied improvements.

In the vicinity of the Chiltern Hills, where the soil is light and ungrateful, the most sedulous care is bestowed by the industrious and enterprising farmer. Every variety of manure is carefully collected and judiciously applied; improved modes of culture are readily adopted, and the general management of the land is highly commendable.

In this county horses are preferred to oxen, on account of the flintiness of some soils, and the heavy adhesive quality of others. In the southern parts, the swing and high-wheel ploughs are chiefly used, drawn by four horses, two a-breast. In the northern division, the loose-handle swing and low-wheel ploughs, worked by five or six horses in a line. The manures are principally marl, peat-ash, yard and rabbits' dung; and on some strong and cold soils, hair and hoofs have been advantageously used. Soot and ashes have been found to be equally beneficial on wheat and young clover. Great quantities of butter are supplied from this county, and regularly sent to the metropolis: also a great number of ducks from Aylesbury. Many calves are suckled in the vicinity of Medmenham, Great and Little Hampton, &c. We must not neglect this opportunity of censuring the conduct of some landlords, who considerably check the progress of agricultural improvement by injudicious covenants in leases; many of the tenantry in this county are confined to two or three crops and a fallow, with a prohibition to the growth of clover and green food!

MANUFACTURES in this county are chiefly confined to paper and lace. At High Wycombe there are fifteen corn and paper-mills; and the manufacture of the latter article is probably carried on to as great an extent in that neigh-

bourhood as in any part of England. The manufacture of bone lace is carried to a greater extent and perfection in this than in any other county, particularly about Newport Pagnell.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers of this county are the Ouse and the Thames.

THE OUSE enters Buckinghamshire on the western side, passes Water Stratford, and flows in a devious course to Buckingham; thence winding to the north through a rich tract of meadow land, pursues its way to Stony Stratford, Newport Pagnell, and Olney; soon afterwards turning suddenly to the east, it leaves the county near Brayfield.

THE THAMES rises near the borders of the county in Hertfordshire, and flowing through the vale of Aylesbury, from east to west, receives the waters of several smaller streams, and enters Oxfordshire near the town of Thame.

Remarkable Places.

AMERSHAM is a borough and market town, 26 miles from London. This ancient town is seated in a vale between woody hills. It consists of a long wide street, crossed near the centre by a smaller one. Near the point of intersection is the church, a spacious brick building, covered with stucco. Great quantities of black lace are made here; and the labouring classes derive additional support from a cotton manufactory, established about eleven years ago, which employs above a hundred persons, though much of the business is performed by machinery. The living is said to rank among the best in England. The borough is of great antiquity, and has sent members to parliament as far back as the earliest summons on record.

Here is a good market on Tuesday. Number of houses 432—inhabitants 2,259.

AYLESBURY, 39 miles from London, is situated near the centre of the county, on a small eminence, rising gradually on all sides, in the rich and extensive tract distinguished as the *Vale of Aylesbury*. This town consists of several streets and lanes irregularly built. The county hall is a handsome modern brick building. The church is a spacious and ancient structure, built in the shape of a cross, with a low tower rising at the intersection of the

nave and transept. The church-yard is very large, and disposed into several walks, planted with double rows of trees. Aylesbury was made a borough by charter, and empowered to send members to parliament on the 14th of January, 1353-4.

The market is well supplied with corn, calves, ducks, &c.; and its six annual fairs for the sale of cattle are well attended. The parish of Aylesbury is the largest and most fruitful in the county. Houses 755—inhabitants 3,447.

BEACONSFIELD, 23 miles from London, is a market town. The houses are built with flint and brick, and disposed into four streets, which from their relative positions assume the form of a cross. The church is built with flint and square stones. In the south aisle, a small and plain mural tablet of marble has been lately put up to the memory of that great and most resplendent genius, Edmund Burke, who died at Butler's Court in this parish. Houses 289—inhabitants 1,461.

BRILL, five miles from Thame, was the ancient seat of the Aubrey family, but the mansion has been destroyed. This place is more particularly distinguished for having been the residence of Edward the Confessor, who had a palace here, to which he frequently retired to enjoy the pleasure of hunting in Bernwood Forest.

BUCKINGHAM, 57 miles from London, appears to have been a town of considerable antiquity, near which the Roman general Aulus Plautius, surprised and routed the Britons under the command of Caractacus and Togodumnus, the sons of Cunobelin. In the year 918, Edward the elder, according to the Saxon chronicle, resided here for a short time. In 941, the town was ravaged by the Danish soldiers, and again in 1010, when having plundered the adjacent country, they retreated hither to secure their ill-gotten treasure. The most conspicuous and principal ornament of Buckingham is the church, which stands proudly exalted on the summit of an artificial mount, anciently occupied by a castle. It is built of stone, and has a handsome square tower attached to the south-west end, ornamented with pinnacles, embrasures, and a light tapering spire, which rises to the height of 150 feet from the ground. The Town Hall is a large brick building,

surmounted with a gilt swan, which is the borough arms. The houses are chiefly brick, irregularly scattered over a large extent of ground on the side and bottom of a hill. The labouring inhabitants are principally employed in agricultural pursuits or lace-making. The principal sort made is fine thread lace, black and white; the former commonly worked with a French ground, or perfect diamond square, the latter generally executed with a roundish hole, called the point-ground. The government of the town is in a bailiff and twelve burgesses; it sends two members to parliament, and the right of election is in the bailiff and twelve burgesses.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, Monday se'nnight after old twelfth-day, March 7, May 6, Thursday in Whitsun week, July 10, September 4, October 2, and November 8. Number of houses 584—inhabitants 2,987.

BULSTRODE, about three miles east of Beaconsfield, is the principal seat of the Duke of Portland. The park contains about 800 acres, diversified with bold swells, almost rising into hills, and a great number of deep-sweeping valleys, crossing and intersecting the grounds in several directions. The house is built with brick, and forms three sides of a quadrangle, with two wings. It is situated on an elevated piece of ground, which is nearly surrounded by a valley. A variety of paintings, some of of them particularly fine, ornament the spacious mansion-house.

BURNHAM, three miles from Maidenhead. About one mile from this village are the remains of an Augustine Nunnery, built in the year 1228 by Richard, king of the Romans, son of king John. A farm-house and offices are formed out of these ruins.

BUTLER'S COURT, one mile from Beaconsfield, was the residence of the celebrated Burke. The front of the house is very similar to the Queen's palace in St. James's park. The centre is connected with the wings by colonnades, supported by eight Corinthian columns. The grounds, though not extensive, are pleasing; and the surrounding country is finely diversified with woods, hills, valleys, and enclosures. Butler's Court contains some excellent paintings and valuable marbles.

CHALFONT HOUSE, three miles from Amersham,

is seated in a luxuriant narrow valley, finely ornamented with wood and water. The grounds are disposed with much taste and judgment.

CHALFONT ST. GILES has been rendered memorable as the residence of Milton during the plague which raged in London in the year 1665. The house in which he took refuge is now standing, and is probably in the same state as when inhabited by that great poet, who in this spot finished his immortal *Paradise Lost*. Here also the first draught of *Paradise Regained* is supposed to have been written.

CHENIES, four miles from Amersham. The old manor house, once the residence of the Chenies family, is still standing near the elegant chapel built in 1562 by Anne Countess of Bedford. This chapel has from that period been the general burial-place of the illustrious family of Russell, and contains several handsome monuments.

CLIEFDEN.—This once magnificent mansion, built by the Duke of Buckingham in the reign of Charles II., and greatly improved by Frederick, prince of Wales, was almost entirely destroyed by fire on the 20th May, 1795. On this occasion scarcely a remnant of its superb furniture or splendid paintings could be preserved. The wings were the only parts of this stately fabric that escaped the flames.

The declivity towards the Thames is finely hung with natural woods, and the meanderings of the river, rendering prolific the adjacent meadows, are extremely beautiful.

ETON COLLEGE, near Windsor, founded in the year 1440 by the unfortunate Henry VI., has every advantage from situation which the luxuriant hand of nature can bestow. The valley in which it stands is both healthy and fertile; and the vicinity of the Thames, which rolls its pellucid stream at a short distance from the College walls, contributes to its pleasantness and beauty. The scholars on this foundation are annually elected to King's College, Cambridge, but not removed till the occurrence of vacancies, when they are called according to seniority; and after they have continued at Cambridge three years are entitled to a fellowship. Besides the king's scholars, there are seldom less than 300 sons of noblemen and gen-

tlemen, who board with the masters, and receive their education at this seminary.

The College buildings consist of two quadrangles; one of them is appropriated to the school and the lodgings of the masters and scholars,—the other contains the apartments of the provost and fellows, and likewise the library, which is regarded as one of the finest in Europe. Some very valuable drawings, paintings, and oriental manuscripts, are numbered with the rare and curious articles here preserved.

The village of ETON has of late years been considerably improved, many of the houses having been rebuilt, and others repaired in the modern style. It consists principally of one street, connected with the town of Windsor by a bridge thrown over the Thames.

FENNY STRATFORD, a market town, 46 miles from London, is so called from the situation of the surrounding lands, though the town itself is built on the rising of a hill. The skirts of the town are laved by the little river Lofield, over which there is a large stone bridge. The chapel, which stands in the parish of Blecheley, was rebuilt and endowed at the expense of the antiquary, Browne Willis, and his friends. The ceiling is ornamented with the arms of the persons whose respective subscriptions amounted to ten pounds and upwards. The inhabitants derive their chief support from the passage of travellers, and the manufacture of white thread lace. The south-east entrance to the town has been lately improved by a new road, and its trade increased by the proximity of the Grand Junction canal.

Market on Monday. Fairs on April 19, July 18, October 10, and November 28. Houses 81—inhabitants 469.

FAWLEY COURT, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Henley-upon-Thames, was built by Sir Christopher Wren. It is a spacious and handsome mansion with four fronts, situated in the middle of an extensive lawn, terminated with undulating hills partially covered with beech. In the house and gardens are several statues from the Arundel collection, and some fine paintings by Cuyp, Poussin, Rembrandt, Titian, and Vandyck. The grounds near the house are rather flat, but the rides through the woods and on the

hills display scenery rendered extremely beautiful by the windings of the Thames.

GOTHURST stands on a rising ground nearly three miles from Newport Pagnell, and about half a mile from the banks of the Ouse. This mansion was erected in the latter part of the reign of Queen Elizabeth. The principal front may be considered as a complete and venerable specimen of the style of building which then prevailed; but some of the other parts have been modernized. The grounds are extensive, and pleasingly disposed into spacious lawns, one of which occupies about 130 acres. Several walks, enlivened with prospects of the distant country, have been cut through the woods, which are very large.

HALL BARN, the once celebrated seat of Waller, by whom it was built, is about one mile south of Beaconsfield, and before the improvements of modern times, was considered a magnificent abode.

HAMBLEDON, four miles from Great Marlow; the Manor-house, was erected by the Earl of Sunderland, in a similar style of building to that in fashion in the reign of Elizabeth. Here Charles I. is said to have taken refuge on April 28th., 1646, on his road from Oxford to St. Albans. The church is a spacious and handsome edifice in the shape of a cross, and composed of flints and chalk. The parish of Hambledon is nearly five miles in length and four in breadth: this neighbourhood is rendered extremely beautiful by the inequality of the ground, and the fine mixture of wood, corn, and pasture, which diversifies the appearance of the vales and eminences. Houses 225—Inhabitants 1,110.

HAMPDEN HOUSE, near Missenden, the almost deserted seat of the ancient family of Hampden, is seated on the brow of a hill, overlooking a narrow valley, the sides of which are skirted with well wooded eminences. This mansion contains several good pictures and family portraits; but the names of the persons whom they represent appear to be forgotten.

HANSLOPE, three miles from Newport Pagnell, is built on the summit of a hill, and is only remarkable for its church, which is one of the most ancient edifices in the

county, and may be considered as a rude specimen of the early Gothic architecture.

HARLEY FORD, the seat of Sir William Clayton, is not large, but the apartments are conveniently disposed, and the library neat and elegant. The house is sheltered on the north by a fine grove of beech and fir. Venerable chesnut and other trees decorate the lawn, and extensive walks lead to many varied and interesting prospects.

HITCHENDEN, one mile and a half from High Wycombe; an ancient irregular building, containing several excellent rooms, a few good family portraits, and a seemingly original one of Robert Dudley Earl of Leicester. In the village burial-ground are some very ancient free-stone monuments.

LISCOMBE HOUSE, three miles from Stukeley, has been in the family of Lovett upwards of 500 years. This mansion, chiefly built with brick covered with a composition, stands on the brow of a gentle eminence commanding a fine view. The front is ornamented with four circular and two square turrets: the whole building is embattled and assumes a castellated appearance.

MARLOW (Great), 31 miles from London is a market and borough town, and consists of two principal streets, in the form of a Roman T, and three smaller ones. The High Street is spacious, on a gradual descent, and contains some good houses. The whole place of late years has been improved, and seems likely to become a neat flourishing town. The Church is a large ancient structure, dedicated to All Saints. The first return of members to parliament for the borough occurred in the twenty-eighth of Edward I. The right of election is in the inhabitants paying scot and lot, to which no house under three pounds is rated. The number of voters is about 220; houses 709; inhabitants 3,965.

It has a market on Saturday, and a fair on the 29th. of October.

MEDMENHAM, three miles from Marlow, possesses a little Abbey pleasantly situated on the banks of the Thames. The abbey-house with its ivy-mantled roof and walls, forms a very picturesque object. The late addition of a ruined tower, cloister, and other correspond-

ing parts, have been made with such taste, that when time shall have made its usual impression, and when the ivy and mosses of various hues shall have overspread the surface, the new buildings will be perfectly blended with the ancient pile. This Abbey was particularly celebrated in the last century, as the residence of a society of men of wit and fashion, who retired hither under the title of Monks of St. Francis, whose habits they assumed. Whatever were the real principles of this Society, many of their transactions were undoubtedly vicious and dishonourable.

MONKS' RISBOROUGH, is a market town, four miles and a half from Wendover. In this parish is an antiquity similar to the White Horse in Berkshire; a cross formed in the same manner on the side of a high and steep chalk hill. It appears raised on a basis of considerable dimensions; its height is about 100 feet, its greatest breadth 50, the depth of the trench, which is cut in chalk, to determine the limits of the figure, is between two and three feet. The expense of repairing this rude but durable memorial of our ancestors, when last scoured, was defrayed by a subscription of the neighbouring gentry.

It has a market on Saturday, and a fair on Good Friday; 178 houses, and 899 inhabitants.

NEWPORT PAGNELL, fifty miles from London, is an ancient and populous market-town, pleasantly situated in the north of the county, on the banks of the Ouse, and divided into two unequal parts by the small river Lovet. The church is an ancient and spacious edifice, dedicated to the Saints Peter and Paul, and standing on on eminence that commands an extensive view of the surrounding country, which produces excellent corn, and plenty of fine game. The labouring classes are chiefly supported by lace-making. It has been said, that more lace is manufactured in this town and its neighbourhood, than in all the rest of England: on every Wednesday a market is held for its sale. Great quantities are also sold at the fairs here, of which there are no fewer than six held annually. The inhabitants are supplied with water from the Ouse, by means of an hydraulic machine.

Markets on Saturday and Wednesday: fairs, February

22, April 22, June 22, August 29, October 22, and December 22. Houses 556, inhabitants 2,515.

NUTLEY ABBEY, near Long Brandon, still displays its ivy-clad ruins. It was founded by Walter Gifford, Earl of Buckingham and Cormengard his wife, for Augustine canons regular in the year 1162.

SHARDELOES. This mansion erected from designs by Adams, is delightfully situated on the brow of a hill, overlooking a broad sheet of water, which occupies the centre of a narrow valley, covering 35 acres. The house contains several good paintings by Van Lins, Janson, Vernet, Carter, Van Bloemen, and Barlow. The view of Amersham to the north-east, with the surrounding eminences, surmounted with extensive tracts of wood, is very beautiful.

SLOUGH, near Windsor, is a hamlet appertaining to the Villages of Upton and Stoke, but rendered interesting to the astronomer and man of science, from having long been the residence of the ingenious and celebrated Dr. Herschell. The immense telescope erected at the back of the house is an object of peculiar interest.

STEWKLEY is a large village, rendered interesting to the antiquary by its very ancient church, which is of Saxon workmanship, and is mentioned by Dr. Stukeley as the oldest and most entire he ever saw. The era of the erection of this fabric is unknown.

STOKE PARK, four miles from Windsor, is one of the most charming and magnificent residences in this part of the country. The house was built in the year 1789, from designs by James Wyatt, Esq., but has since experienced several judicious alterations, and considerable additions: it contains several good portraits, by Lely, Kneller, and Reynolds.

The park, though rather flat, commands some very fine views, particularly to the south, where the eye is directed over a large sheet of water, to the majestic castle of Windsor, beyond which Cooper's Hill, and the forest woods close the prospect A large lake winds round the east side of the house, with a neat stone bridge thrown over it.

STOKE POGIS is a large scattered village; Gray, when a student at Eton, occasionally resided with his

aunt in this village, whose church-yard was the scene of his much admired elegy. It was also the place of his interment.

STONY STRATFORD is a market town, 52 miles from London. The houses are of free-stone, and extend for about a mile on each side the road. On the 19th of May, 1742, this place suffered greatly by fire: nearly two thirds of the east-side were consumed, together with the body of the church of St. Mary Magdalen; but the tower is yet standing. St. Giles's church on the western-side was rebuilt, with the exception of the tower, in a handsome manner, in the years 1776 and 1777. Near this structure is a neat market-place. The principal employment of the women is lace-making; but the chief support of the town is derived from the passage of travellers.

The market is on Friday. The fairs on April 20, August 3, October 10, and November 12.—Houses 324—inhabitants 1,488.

STOWE, three miles from Buckingham, is the chief ornament of the county, and principal seat of the Marquis of Buckingham. Stowe, when beheld at a distance, appears like a vast grove, interspersed with columns, obelisks, and towers, which apparently emerge from a luxuriant mass of foliage. The gardens obtained their distinguished celebrity, from the alterations effected by Lord Cobham, under whose direction the groves were planted, the lawns laid out, many of the buildings erected, and the corridors and wings added to the north front of the house. The first professional artist employed to lay out the grounds was Bridgeman. Some of the absurdities left by Bridgeman were removed by Kent, who was consulted in the double capacity of architect and gardener, and to this "father of modern gardening" is Stowe indebted for many of its distinguished ornaments. Several other amateurs and artists have successively directed alterations here, and most of them have left some specimens of their respective peculiarities.

The following architectural objects adorn the gardens, and are the admiration of visitors. The CORINTHIAN ARCH, the HERMITAGE, the TEMPLE OF VENUS, the

QUEEN'S STATUE, the BOYCOT PAVILIONS, the TEMPLE OF BACCHUS, the ROTUNDA, the ELYSIAN FIELDS, a DORIC ARCH, the TEMPLE OF FRIENDSHIP, the TEMPLE OF ANCIENT VIRTUE, the TEMPLE OF BRITISH WORTHIES, the GROTTO, the TEMPLE OF CONCORD AND VICTORY, LORD COBHAM'S PILLAR, the QUEEN'S BUILDING, the GOTHIC TEMPLE, the PALLADIAN BRIDGE.

THE HOUSE is situated on an eminence, rising gradually from the lake to the south front, which is the principal entrance. It covers a large extent of ground, and measures, from east to west, (with the offices) 916 feet: it contains a collection of well-executed pictures, most of which are by the best old masters.

TAPLOE HOUSE, near Maidenhead, is an ancient building on the brow of an eminence, commanding a fine prospect of the Thames, and adjacent country. The park is stored with rich woods, and rendered beautiful by a bold inequality of surface. The noble trunk of a very aged oak spreads its majestic branches on an eminence, and is said to have been planted by Queen Elizabeth during the time of her confinement here: but its size and venerable appearance intimate a much earlier existence.

TICKFORD ABBEY, near Newport Pagnell, is a neat modern house, occupying the site of a monastery, founded and endowed for Cluniac Monks, by Fulk Paganell, in the reign of William Rufus.

WENDOVER, 35 miles from London, situated among the Chiltern Hills, is an ancient borough and market town, principally consisting of mean brick houses: the appearance of the market house is particularly mean. It is a borough by prescription, and returns two members to parliament, the right of election is vested in the housekeepers, not receiving alms.

The market is on Thursday, and there is a fair on the 12th October. The town contains 283 houses, and 1481 inhabitants.

WOTTON-UNDER-BERNWOOD, the ancient seat of the Grenvilles, has been for twenty generations in that family. The manor house is very spacious, and the grounds, abounding with fine old oaks, are delightfully intermixed with wood and water.

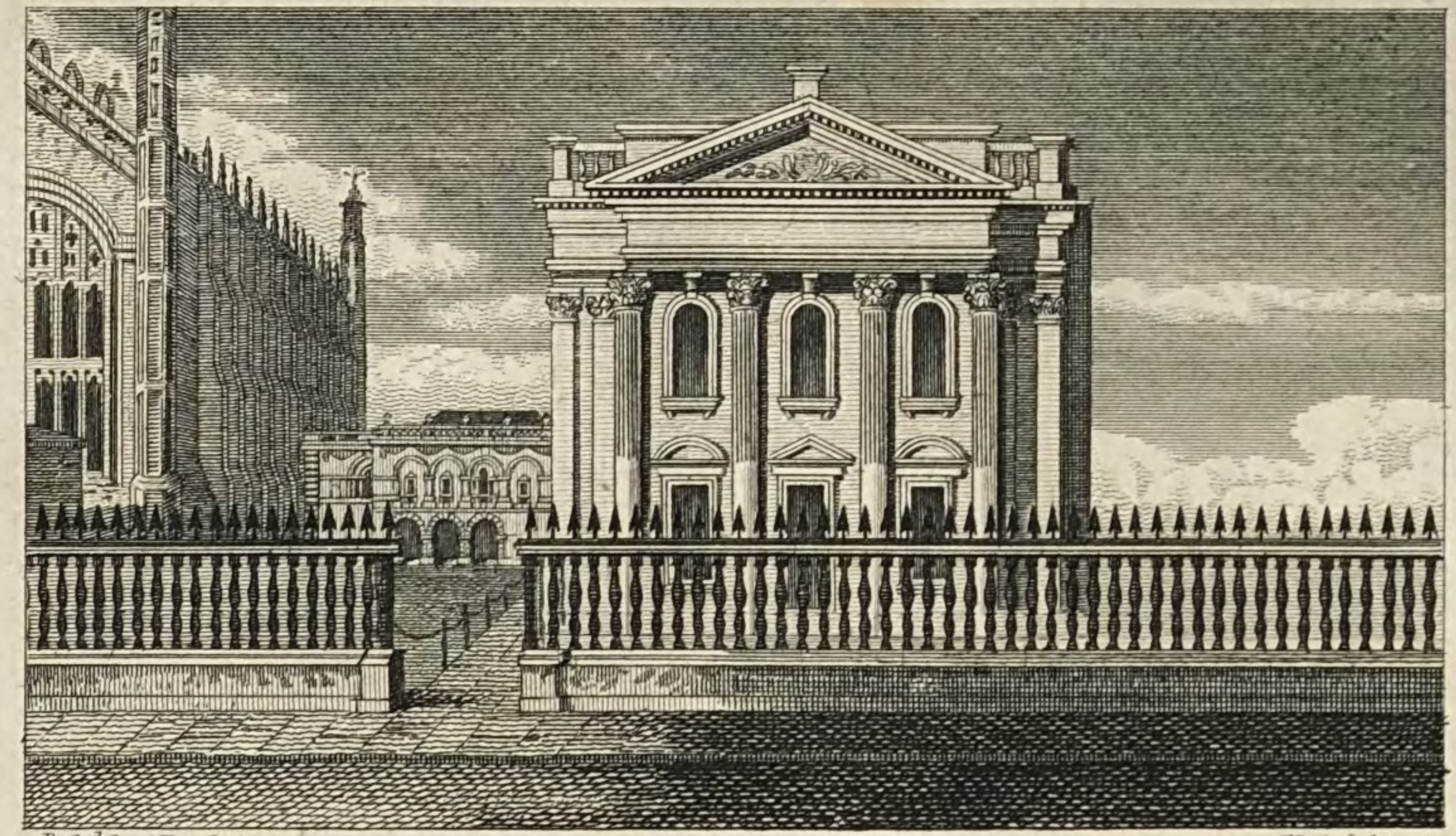
WYCOMBE (HIGH), a borough and market town, 29 miles from London, is situated on the banks of a rivulet in the valley, as its name implies; and if not the largest town in Buckinghamshire, is certainly the most handsome. The antiquities found in its neighbourhood, have induced a supposition that it was a Roman settlement. That it was early inhabited by the Saxons seems incontestible. Wycombe is a very flourishing town, and consists of several streets branching from the high-street, which is spacious and well built. The town-hall was erected at the expense of John Earl of Shelburn, in 1757. The church is a handsome structure of stone, built in the year 1273 and dedicated to all saints. This borough was incorporated some time prior to the reign of Edward III. The corporation consists of a mayor, recorder, twelve aldermen, and various inferior officers. The right of election is vested in the mayor, aldermen, bailiffs, and burgesses: the latter are chosen at the discretion of the mayor, aldermen, and bailiffs.

The prosperity of this town is in a great measure owing to the proximity of the Wycombe stream, which, in its course through the parish, gives motion to fifteen paper and corn mills; some of the inhabitants are supported by lace-making.

The market is on Friday. The fair on 25th September—houses 943—inhabitants 4,750.

WYCOMBE ABBEY, is situated in a bottom, on the banks of the river near the town, but is so entirely secluded in the bosom of its thick groves, that every appearance of a neighbourhood is concealed. The park, containing about 200 acres, is diversified with bold hills, and eminences, covered with wood.

WYCOMBE PARK, is deservedly celebrated for the exquisite beauty of its grounds, and the variety of fascinating scenery, which results from the harmonious intermixture and disposition of its woods and water. The house is a spacious building, situated on a gentle ascent. The principal apartments are ornamented in a very superb manner. The cornice of the dining room is curiously carved and gilt: the ceiling represents the council of the gods, and the door frame is formed of variegated marble. The stair-case is mahogany, richly inlaid.



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CAMBRIDGE.

Senate House, Library & Kings College Chapel.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

Length 50 miles. Breadth 25. Circumference 130. Square miles 686. Square acres 439,040. Hundreds 15. Market-towns 8. Parishes 158. Houses 17,582. Persons 104,500.—Diocese of Ely. Norfolk Circuit.—Members to Parliament 6.—Militia-men 480.

BOUNDARIES—On the north-west are the counties of Northampton, Huntingdon, and Bedford; on the east, Suffolk; on the north-east, Norfolk; and on the north, Lincolnshire. The limits of the northern half are chiefly rivers, and their communicating branches; on the southern the boundaries are wholly artificial. The elevated spots on which the towns and villages are built in the northern division of the county, appear like islands rising from the midst of low and level marshes; and the churches being generally erected on the highest parts, may be distinguished at the distance of several miles. The Isle of Ely is the north division of the county, and consists of fenny ground, divided by innumerable channels and drains, and is a part of a very spacious level extending into Norfolk, Suffolk, Hunts and Lincoln.

The air is very different in different parts of the county. In the fens it is moist and foggy, and comparatively unwholesome; the south-eastern division from Gogmagog-hills to Newmarket is bleak, healthy and thinly inhabited.

It abounds with fish, and the fens with an incredible number of wild-fowl. Notwithstanding the various projects that have been executed, and the vast expense incurred to complete the drainage of the fens, the work is yet imperfect; the peculiar situation of the level, which renders it the receiver of the collected waters of nine counties, and the want of a sufficient outlet to the sea, are frequently the occasion of high floods, by which many thousand acres of prime land are overwhelmed, and made useless for the whole year.

SOIL.—It has been stated that upwards of 150,000 acres are still waste and unimproved fens: this estimate is certainly in some degree inaccurate, although the extent

of the unimproved fens is very considerable, the lands still waste sufficiently demonstrate that the immense labour employed in draining the great level of the fens, has not been crowned with the success anticipated by sanguine projectors. It must, however, be confessed that extensive advantages have been gained; and that in those parts which have been preserved from the floods, or only subject to occasional inundations, the soil has all the fertility of water meadows. The salt marshes in the north-western corner of the county are remarkably favourable to the growth of corn; the south and south-western parts, consisting of elevated land, exhibit a remarkable contrast to the northern division, and produce fine wheat, barley, and oats. The valley through which the Cam flows from Steeple Morden, to Walton, is called THE DAIRIES, from its being almost exclusively appropriated to dairy farms. The soil of this county is greatly diversified. The rich marshes in the vicinity of Wisbeach, consist of a mixture of sand and clay or silt. The fens consist of a strong black earth, or moor, lying on a gault, or gravel, or turf moor, and very favourable for the culture of oats, and cole-seed; the uplands are composed of chalk, gravel, loam, and tender clay, and clay upon a gault. The wood-lands are extremely small, the whole quantity of woods in the county scarcely amounting to 1,000 acres.

AGRICULTURE—The cultivation of the soil of this county can never be mentioned without associating with it the name of the Earl of Hardwick. The example he sets at Wimpole has had very beneficial effects. His lordship's farming establishment is on a very extensive scale; and from every improved method of agriculture being judiciously introduced, the produce of his grounds is yearly increasing; the various inventions to facilitate the labours of the agriculturist are attended to on his establishment, in proportion to their utility. Upon many farms in this county, the common manures are sometimes aided by the application of oil-cake dust, pigeons' dung, decayed woollen rags, soot, &c. In the neighbourhood of Elm, Upwell, Outwell, &c., considerable quantities of hemp and flax are grown; some very fine butter is made on the dairy farms, and many calves are suckled

for the London markets. In the grazing lands round Wisbeach, sheep and oxen grow to a great size, and considerable numbers of them are fattened, and sent twice every week to the metropolis.

MANUFACTURES are hardly known in this county; and, with the exception of those persons who obtain subsistence by making the celebrated white bricks, and coarse pottery with the same clay, in the neighbourhood of Ely, most of the inhabitants are employed in agriculture; others derive support from spinning yarn, for the Norwich weavers.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers of Cambridgeshire are the *Ouse*, and the Granta, or Cam. The Ouse enters the county between Fenny Drayton and Erith; thence runs through the fens, and passing Streatham, Ely and Littleport, flows into Norfolk. The Cam has three branches, the chief of which rises near Ashwell in Hertfordshire, and enters this county to the west of Gilden-Morden; thence flowing to the north-east, it receives several rivulets; and near Grantchester has its current enlarged by the united waters of its sister streams, which flow into this county from Essex. Hence taking a northerly course, the Cam glides through the walks of the principal colleges at Cambridge, and having passed several villages, falls into the Ouse at Harrimere, in the parish of Streatham.

Besides the above rivers there are numerous streams in the north part of Cambridgeshire, formed by the industry of man. The chief are the old and new Bedford rivers, which are navigable for upwards of 20 miles, in a straight line across the county, from Erith to Denver.

Remarkable Places.

BURWELL, three miles from Newmarket. Some small remains of the castle are yet standing; and surrounding the site is a very large fosse, with many springs of excellent water flowing into it. The principal beauty at Burwell is its elegant church, which is built in the style of architecture mistakenly termed Gothic, and for symmetry and accurate proportions is scarcely exceeded by any village church in the kingdom. The parish contains 7,000

acres, 3,500 of which are fen lands that are frequently overflowed in wet seasons. Of the remaining quantity 2,000 acres are appropriated to the growth of corn. The seed wheat they produce is in high repute.

CAMBRIDGE, 51 miles from London, is the capital of the county, and derives its name from the river Cam, which divides the town into two parts. William the Conqueror built a castle in this place, the gate-house of which yet remains. Richard II. held a parliament here; and during the rebellion of Wat Tyler and Jack Straw, the university records were burnt in the market-place.

The extent of Cambridge is about one mile north and south, and half a mile east and west. The streets are, in general, narrow and winding; and the houses ill built, and crowded closely together. The population, compared with the limited extent of the town, is very great. Very little trade of any kind is carried on at Cambridge, but what is either immediately or remotely connected with the university. The corporation consists of a mayor, high steward, recorder, 12 aldermen, 24 common councilmen, four bailiffs, a town clerk, and other officers. The choice of sending representatives to parliament is vested in the mayor, bailiffs, and freemen, not receiving alms: the voters are about 200. The university, not inferior to any in the world, was first founded in the year 630 by Sigebert, king of the East Angles, but the colleges were not begun to be built or endowed till the reign of Edward I. James I., in 1604, conferred the privilege of sending two members to parliament on the university; the right of election being vested in the doctors and masters of arts. Some years afterwards the king visited Cambridge, and during his stay resided at Trinity College, which had also the honour of entertaining Charles I. and his queen. The government of the university is vested in the chancellor, high steward, vice chancellor, two proctors, taxors, moderators, and scrutators, a commissary, a public orator, the caput, and the senate. The number of persons maintained on the different foundations of the university is upwards of 1,100; among these are various professors, about 400 fellows, and 700 students. The great body of the students are admitted members of their different colleges, either as pensioners

or sizars. The scholars are elected indifferently out of both these bodies. The pensioners are generally noblemen or persons of certain rank or distinction, and fellow commoners; these live entirely at their own expense. The scholars have some emolument out of the revenues of the college to which they belong; and the fellows are selected out of the bachelors or masters of arts who have been scholars. The pensioners may have, and sometimes have exhibitions, but, strictly speaking, have no part of the revennes of the college. The sizars are persons of inferior fortune, who are assisted in the expenses of their education by exhibitions and other benefactions. Previous to the erection of colleges, of which there are now twelve, besides four halls, the students resided in hostels or inns, prepared by the townsmen for their reception.

ST. PETER'S COLLEGE originally consisted of two hostels, which were purchased by Hugh de Balsham, subprior of Ely, and by him appropriated, in the year 1257, to the use of students, to relieve them from the exactions of the townsmen.

The *chapel* is a very handsome structure with embrasures and pinnacles. It was erected by subscription in the year 1632. The painted glass represents the *crucifixion*, and is in some parts very richly coloured. The principal figures are copied from the famous picture of Rubens on the same subject at Antwerp; the groups at the sides are said to be from a design by L. Lombard. The library contains some ancient and valuable books.

CLARE HALL was rebuilt in 1344 by Elizabeth de Burgh, third daughter and heiress of Gilbert, last Earl of Clare. By this lady it was named Clare Hall.

The present revenues maintain 17 fellows, and between 30 and 40 scholars. This is one of the neatest and most uniform houses in the university. The west front consists of two rows of pilasters of the Tuscan and Ionic orders, finished with an entablature and handsome balustrade. The middle tier of windows is adorned with pediments. The entrances to the quadrangular court included by the buildings are lofty arches. The whole college was rebuilt by subscription with Ketton stone in 1638. The chapel is more modern; it was erected in 1703, from a design by Sir James Burrough.

PEMBROKE HALL was founded in the year 1343 by Mary, third wife of Audomer de Valencia, Earl of Pembroke. The original establishment has been greatly increased by succeeding benefactors, but more particularly by Henry VI., who augmented it with the rich living of Soham and other rectories. The present number of fellowships is 16; the scholarships about 70. The buildings have but a mean appearance, with the exception of the chapel, which was erected by Bishop Wren, from a design by his nephew, Sir Christopher. In a brick building attached to the college is preserved a celestial globe of extraordinary dimensions.

CORPUS CHRISTI or BENE'T COLLEGE differs in its origin from all others in either of the universities; those have been founded by the benevolence of one or two persons, while this was established by the union of two guilds, or societies, respectively entitled the guilds of the body of Christ and of the blessed Virgin Mary. The endowments support twelve fellowships, and nearly sixty scholarships. Its name of Bene't, or Benedict College, arose from its proximity to the church of that saint.

The greatest benefactor to this college was Matthew Parker, Archbishop of Canterbury, who, besides recovering several of its lost rights, and founding two fellowships and five scholarships, bestowed on it the valuable library of Stoke Clare College, Suffolk, which he also augmented with many printed books and manuscripts. This collection chiefly relates to ecclesiastical affairs, and is extremely difficult of access.

CAIUS and GONVIL COLLEGE was founded in 1348 by Edward Gonvil, and augmented in 1557 by Dr. Caius. It stands in the middle of the town north of the Senate House. The library is but small, yet it contains some extremely valuable books and manuscripts, particularly on heraldry and mineralogy.

TRINITY HALL was originally one of those hostels wherein the students resided at their own expense. Bishop Bateman, having obtained the king's license to erect it into a college, dedicated it to the holy and undivided Trinity, and appointed a master, three fellows, and two scholars, to be students in the canon and civil law. Various benefactions, since this period, have increased the

fellowships to 12, and the scholarships to 14. The library is neatly classed, and contains among other valuable publications a complete collection of civil and common law books, this seminary being more peculiarly appropriated to the study of that science.

KING'S COLLEGE derived its origin from Henry VI.; he instituted a small seminary on this spot for a rector and 12 fellows; and on December 6, (his birthday) 1441, dedicated it to the Virgin Mary and St. Nicholas; but within two years, in 1443, he entirely changed its form, and endowed it for a provost, seventy fellows, or scholars (the latter to be supplied in regular succession from Eton, established nearly at the same time), three chaplains, six clerks, sixteen choristers, and a music-master, who now possesses the office of organist; 16 officers of the foundation, twelve servitors for the senior fellows, and six poor scholars. The *chapel* is a magnificent structure, and has been always considered as a perfect specimen of Gothic or English ecclesiastical architecture. The vast arched roof, unsustained by a single pillar, with its voluminous stones, displaying all the elegance of fan-work, and seeming to hang in air, as if "art had taught them to forget nature, and weaned them of their tendency to gravitate," at once astonishes and confounds. The edifice belonging to this college, called the *New Building*, was commenced in 1724. The elevation of this structure, when seen from the fields, has a noble appearance; but the Doric portal in the centre is far from beautiful. The apartments are 24 in number, and are disposed very conveniently. The whole length of the building is 236 feet. In the gardens attached to this college, a new stone bridge has lately been erected over the Cam. The external appearance of the provost's lodge is by no means prepossessing, but some of the apartments display much grandeur.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE was founded in the year 1448, and endowed with revenues to the amount of £200 per annum, for the support of a principal and four fellows, by Margaret of Anjou, the intrepid consort of Henry VI. The entrance to the outer court is under a small tower gateway. The inner court is furnished with cloisters, and

extends to the very banks of the river. The gardens are pleasant and extensive; they lie on both sides the river, and are adorned with some fine elms. The hall is a well-proportioned room. In the lodge is a curious altarpiece on three pannels in high preservation.

CATHERINE HALL was founded about the year 1474, and dedicated to St. Catherine by Robert Woodlark, third provost of King's College, and chancellor of the university. The buildings of this college occupy three sides of a quadrangle; the fourth is open towards the street, with handsome iron palisadoes, and a piece of ground planted with elms. The chapel, which stands on the north side, is a neat brick structure. Over the combination rooms is the library, which was fitted up by Bishop Sherlock, who bequeathed his own valuable collection of books to the college, with a stipend for a librarian. The master's lodge is a lofty and spacious edifice, and, with the new building erected by Mrs. Ramsden, forms the south side of the court.

JESUS COLLEGE was erected on the site of an ancient Benedictine nunnery, founded about the year 1130: it is situated at a little distance from the town, on the east. Near it is a grove of considerable extent, and some fine meadows. The south or principal front is about 180 feet in length. The chapel, from its form and appearance, seems to have been the ancient conventual church, having a transept, and a large square tower rising from arches at their intersection with the nave. The chancel is neatly fitted up for divine service. The library contains many scarce and valuable editions of the classics.

CHRIST'S COLLEGE was built on the site of an hostel, called *God's House*. The persons now maintained by the endowments are a master, 15 fellows, and about 70 scholars. The ancient buildings of this college have been repaired, and cased with stone. They enclose a small quadrangular court, behind which is a more modern and uniform pile, designed by Inigo Jones, about 150 feet in length, commanding an extensive view of the adjacent country. The garden is pleasingly laid out, and contains a neat summer-house, and a bath surrounded by a small

wilderness. In the fellows' garden is a large mulberry tree, that was planted by Milton when a student here.

The chapel is neatly ornamented, and floored with marble.

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE was established on the site of a dissolved hospital for canons regular. The endowments have been increased by numerous benefactions, and the number of persons now supported is 175—that is, 61 fellows and 114 scholars. The buildings of this college are principally brick, and are disposed into three courts. In the lodge a curious set of chairs is preserved, said to have been presented to the society by Charles II. about the year 1680. One of them is a large elbow-chair, ornamented with beautiful carvings of cherubs, lions' heads, and other fanciful embellishments. The library is contained in a spacious room, erected at the charge of John Williams, Archbishop of York, who was a fellow of this college in the year 1603. The collection of books is extensive and valuable. In a small apartment, detached from the library, some curious and interesting manuscripts are preserved.

MAGDALEN COLLEGE occupies a portion of the site of a priory for canons regular, dedicated to St. Giles, and built by Picot a Norman, through the persuasion of his wife, Hugolina, in 1092. This is the only college on the north side of the river. It consists of two courts. In the larger is the hall, master's lodge, and chapel; in the second, the apartments of the Fellows, the Bibliotheca Pepysiana, &c. The hall is a very handsome room.

This College has two libraries, the principal of which was given by Samuel Pepys, Esq., secretary to the Admiralty, in the time of Charles II.; it contains many valuable publications, and also some curious manuscripts on maritime affairs. Here are likewise several volumes of scarce and curious prints, among which are the twelve Cæsars and their wives, from Titian, engraved by Sadlier; these are in very fine preservation. A large folio volume, in this collection, contains a kind of series of scraps selected as specimens of various hand-writings from about the year 900. In some of them the writing is so exceedingly minute, that it appears like a fine hair, lying across the paper, and cannot be read without a magnifier: though

with the aid of a glass the letters are as distinct and legible as fine printing. In the same book are some manuscript *imitations* of printing, so completely deceptive as to require considerable attention to discover the difference.

In a small octavo volume are the *fac-similes* of the signatures of many eminent characters, whose letters were among the papers of Mr. Pepys; and in another volume of the same size, are various *unpublished* particulars of the escape of Charles II., after the fatal battle of Worcester; and likewise the original account of that event, written in short-hand by Mr. Pepys from the king's own words; together with the narrative at length, translated from the short-hand into English. An unique collection of ancient ballads is also preserved here.

TRINITY COLLEGE. This noble and magnificent establishment occupies the site of several hostels, as well as of the two ancient and considerable societies of *St. Michael's* and *King's Hall*. The former of these was founded by Harvey Aungier, of Stanton, in Suffolk. *King's Hall* derived its origin from the munificence of Edward III. In this building the court of Richard II. resided, when that monarch held his parliament in this town. Henry VIII. erected and endowed the present spacious college by charter, dated December 19th 1546, and dedicated it to the Holy and Undivided Trinity. The endowments given by Henry were augmented by his daughter, queen Mary, and the persons they now maintain amount to upwards of 400, viz., a master, vice-master, sixty fellows, sixty-nine scholars, three public professors, four conducts, and various other officers, and servants. The buildings of this college enclose two spacious quadrangular courts. The magnificent tower gateway at the entrance is ornamented with a statue of Henry VIII., and had formerly an observatory on the summit, erected for the studies of the immortal Newton. On the north side of this court is the elegant *chapel* erected by the sister queens, Mary and Elizabeth. This structure is built in the pointed style, and displays much genuine simplicity and taste. The ante-chapel is separated from the choir, by an extensive gallery, which contains one of the largest organs in England. In the ante-chapel is the monument of Newton, a most admirable piece of statuary, executed by Roubiliac.

Between the west end of the chapel and the hall is the Master's Lodge, which contains some very grand and spacious rooms, where the sovereign resides whenever he visits Cambridge. Adjoining to the lodge, on the west side of the court, is the hall. This is a very spacious building, with buttresses and pinnacles, and a bay window on each side of great depth. The building of the library was originally projected by Dr. Isaac Barrow; the architect was the celebrated Sir Christopher Wren. The interior of the library is probably unequalled by any apartment appropriated to a similar purpose in Europe.

Many curiosities are preserved here; particularly a globe, universal ring-dial, quadrant and compass, which formerly belonged to Sir Isaac Newton; a half length portrait of Shakspeare, said to be an original; a quiver of arrows, employed by Richard III. against Henry VII., at the battle of Bosworth Field; an Egyptian mummy in very fine preservation, with the outside curiously gilt and painted; an ibis; and the dried body of one of the aboriginal inhabitants of the Madeira Islands.

EMANUEL COLLEGE was erected on the site of a Dominican priory, founded about the year 1280. The buildings which surround the principal court are the cloisters and gallery, the hall, combination room, master's lodge, and a modern and uniform structure of stone, adorned with a balustrade and parapet. The hall is neatly fitted up, and furnished with a music gallery. The chapel is very elegant, with a marble flooring, and the ceiling ornamented with stucco work. The library is small, but the books (principally divinity) are well chosen, and many are both scarce and valuable. One of them is extremely curious, and in fine preservation. This is *Tully's Offices*, printed by Faust, in 1465; it appears to have belonged to prince Arthur, brother of Henry VIII., his arms being portrayed on the title-page. The gardens are pleasant and extensive, they are provided with a neat bowling green, and a cold bath.

SIDNEY SUSSEX COLLEGE was built on the site of a monastery of Franciscans, or Grey Friars. The first stone of the college was laid on the 20th of May, 1596, and the building completed in little more than three years.

The hall is a very elegant room, with a music gallery,

supported by pillars, forming a vestibule at the entrance, and a handsome bay window at the upper end. The ceiling and walls are neatly ornamented with fret work. The lodge consists of several convenient apartments. In the library, which is conveniently contrived as a study to the master's rooms, are several objects, besides books, which have been thought worthy of preservation. The grounds belonging to this college are laid out with extreme taste. In the Fellows' garden is a spacious bowling-green, a pleasant summer-house, and a shrubbery.

DOWNING COLLEGE has been erected in pursuance of the will of Sir George Downing, Bart., who, in the year 1717, devised several valuable estates in the counties of Cambridge, Bedford, and Suffolk, to this purpose, after the decease of his relative Sir Jacob Downing and his three sons, without issue. This college consists of a master, a professor of the laws of England, a professor of medicine, and 16 fellows; scholars and pupils are admitted and educated as in other colleges. The fellows vacate their fellowships at the expiration of 12 years, unless under particular circumstances they obtain a license to hold them for a longer term.

The SCHOOLS of this university were originally held in private houses, hired for the purpose every ten years; but this mode of engaging apartments being found inconvenient, the PUBLIC SCHOOLS were commenced on or near the spot where they now stand, in the year 1443, at the expense of the university, assisted by liberal benefactions.

The UNIVERSITY LIBRARY occupies the whole quadrangle of apartments over the schools. The present collection of books is very large, and peculiarly valuable, it having been augmented by many scarce and curious editions of esteemed authors, given by various benefactors. Many curious and valuable manuscripts are also preserved here.

The SENATE HOUSE, a magnificent building of the Corinthian order, was designed by Sir James Burrel, and erected by Mr. Gibbs, at the expense of the university, aided by an extensive subscription.

The UNIVERSITY BOTANIC GARDEN occupies between three and four acres on the south-east side of the town, conveniently disposed, and well watered.

Cambridge contains 14 parishes, each of which, with one exception, is provided with a church; but those only of great St. Mary, and St. Sepulchre, present objects of sufficient importance for observation. In St. Mary's church the members of the university attend the celebration of divine service. At the west end is a spacious organ-loft, which, on the performance of oratorios, or the celebration of festivals, is enlarged for the accommodation of the vocal and instrumental performers,

ST. SEPULCHRE'S, or *the Round church*, excites the curiosity of the antiquary from its singular form, though its primary shape has been much altered by subsequent buildings, and in its present state appears under many disadvantages. The arch over the west door is embellished with round and zigzag mouldings, in the Norman style of architecture. A new jail has lately been erected, near the ruins of the castle. The *market-place* is nearly in the form of the Roman L, at the bottom of which stands the *Shire Hall*, which was built at the expense of the county, and is divided into two courts.

The principal charitable institutions in this town are, a *Free Grammar School*, and a general infirmary called *Addenbrooke's Hospital*. At each end of the school is a house with a garden annexed, originally designed for the residence of the master and usher; and at the south end are also some almshouses for poor widows, founded, like the school, by the donation of Mr. Perse.

ADDENBROOKE'S HOSPITAL is a large brick building situated near the south entrance of the town, and was so named from John Addenbrooke, an eminent physician, who, in the year 1719, bequeathed about 4,000*l*., on the death of his widow, to erect and furnish an hospital for the gratuitous cure of the indigent diseased. The number of persons admitted and relieved at this hospital is averaged at 700 annually. Cambridge contains three dissenting meeting-houses, a Jews' synagogue, 1,691 houses, and 10,087 inhabitants.

The markets are under the jurisdiction of the university, and are supplied in the most abundant manner. The chief market is Saturday, but there is a market every day in the week, except Sunday and Monday, for fowls, eggs,

and butter. The fairs are on the 24th June and 14th August.

CASTLE CAMPS, near Linton; the castle stands on a beautiful eminence, and commands an extensive prospect of the county towards Cambridge. On the east side was a lofty tower of brick, which was blown down. The remaining part has been substantially repaired, and made a comfortable residence for the person who rents it. The church is small, with an embattled tower.

CATLEDGE HALL, near Newmarket, is a curious and venerable mansion, belonging to the Earl of Guildford; it was erected in the reign of Henry VIII., and though much of its original splendour is departed, it still has sufficient charms to interest the feelings of the antiquary. The building is entirely of brick, with the exception of the window frames and door cases. It stands on a raised platform, and is nearly surrounded with a deep and broad moat, filled with water. Queen Elizabeth was magnificently entertained in this mansion by Roger, the second Lord North, in the 21st year of her reign.

CHIPPENHAM PARK, four miles from Newmarket. Many great improvements have been effected on this estate. The park has been modernized and extended to 350 acres. A beautiful sheet of water, nearly three quarters of a mile in length, has also been laid out. The lodges at the entrance of the park display much elegance. The hot-house is 440 feet in length. Its principal produce are grapes, of a superior quality and size; but beside these, it contains some valuable exotics, particularly a guava tree, which has borne fruit, yet not of that rich flavour which distinguishes it in its native climate. The plantations are very considerable. The mansion is built with bricks, and stuccoed; but, with the exception of the following original paintings, it contains little remarkable: St. John, a Madona, a Magdalen, and the Trinity, by Carlo Dolci, Rinaldo and Armida, and a Magdalen, by Guercino, and David and Goliath by Guido.

DENNY ABBEY, situated in the parish of Waterbeach, was originally a cell of Benedictine monks. The site of the abbey is occupied by a spacious and convenient dwelling-house. The transept of the chapel, about 30 yards by 10, still remains, and is now used as a barn;

the refectory also has been appropriated to a similar purpose. The walls enclose an area of about four acres, and were formerly surrounded by a moat, nearly the whole of which may yet be traced.

The DEVIL'S DITCH.—This celebrated ditch commences near Catledge, and runs across Newmarket Heath, in a straight line for several miles, to *Reche*, where the fens were anciently marshy, and impassable. The earth that was dug out of the trench is thrown up, and forms a high bank on the east side, which is that next to the sea. This mode of disposing of the excavated earth, is a proof that the ditch was made some centuries before Cæsar, by the first inhabitants that settled eastward, in order to secure themselves from the attacks of the inland aborigines. Its antiquity is inferred from several ways having been cut through the bank, and the ditch filled up. These passages are called gaps.

ELY, situated on the river Ouse, 14 miles from Cambridge, is a city of great antiquity, a castle was built here by Bishop Nigel, in the reign of king Stephen, of which only a memorial remains, known by the name of Castleward. This city has but one good street, and that is well paved; the others are very indifferent and dirty.

The CATHEDRAL is the workmanship of very different periods, and displays a singular admixture of various styles of architecture. It is interesting from furnishing the antiquary the means of obtaining an acquaintance with the modes of building practised by our ancestors in different ages, and which can best be acquired from a comparative examination.

The Bishop's palace is a neat brick structure. It was built by the Bishops Alcock and Gooderich. The principal charitable benefaction for the use of the poor, is vested in feoffees, and arises from estates in the neighbourhood.

The adjacent grounds are chiefly market gardens, the soil being so fertile, that it supplies most of the neighbouring towns with vegetables, even as far as Cambridge, and is particularly noted for strawberries.

The market is on Saturday, and the fairs on Ascension-day, and the 29th October. The number of houses 756, inhabitants 3,713.

GOGMAGOG HILLS, about four miles to the east of

Cambridge, are the highest eminences in this county. On the top of these hills is a triple *entrenchment* with two ditches, rudely circular, supposed by some writers to have been a British, and by others a Roman, camp. Within the entrenchment, which encloses about thirteen acres and a half, are the house and grounds of Lord Francis Osborne. The house is an irregular brick building, originally intended as a hunting box, and establishment for breeding and rearing horses: it was erected by the Earl Godolphin.

MADINGLEY, three miles from Cambridge. The manor house is a brick building, somewhat similar in appearance, and apparently of the same age as Holland-House, near Kensington. It is nearly surrounded with woods and pleasure grounds, and from the road has a very picturesque appearance. The rooms are full of paintings, among them are some good historical pieces, and a few fine portraits. The park and pleasure grounds of this estate were considerably improved by the late Sir J. H. Cotton; and the village church, which stands very near the house, was repaired and ornamented at his expense. It is a small but very neat structure, with a beautiful painted window over the communion table.

NEWMARKET, 60 miles from London, has long been celebrated in the annals of horsemanship, for its extensive heath, which, in the neighbourhood of this town, has been formed into one of the finest race courses in the kingdom. The chief part of this town is situated in Suffolk; but the whole of the race course is in this county. Most of the houses are modern, and well built, and many of them, which have been erected as residences for noblemen and private gentlemen who attend the races, are very handsome. Two of the coffee-houses are very conveniently furnished, for the use of the *Betters*, when they meet to ratify their agreements or settle their matches. Billiard and other rooms are also prepared for the reception of those gentlemen who prefer games of skill, or hazard, to the more boisterous diversions of the turf; and excellent accommodations for visitors, may be found in the numerous inns with which the town is provided. The *Races* are held several times in each year; in the spring, and during the months of July and October. The houses are chiefly disposed in

one long and wide street, partly erected on the gentle declivity of a hill. The town has been twice destroyed by fire; first in the year 1683, during the presence of Charles II., his Queen, and the Duke of York. The second fire was about the commencement of the last century. The two churches do not contain any thing remarkable.

The market is on Tuesday; the fairs, the 28th October and Whit-Tuesday. There are 305 houses—and 1,792 inhabitants.

STOURBRIDGE fair is annually held in a large field, near Cambridge. The origin of this fair, is involved in much incertitude. The field in which the fair is held, is about half-a-mile square, having the river Cam for its boundary on the north side, and the Sture on the east. The ground is marked out on the fourth of September, by the mayor and aldermen, and the dealers are then authorized to erect their booths in regular order, like streets, each row being designated by a particular name; the fair is proclaimed with great solemnity on the 18th of September. The stated time of the continuance of the fair is 14 days: its principal commodities are wool, hops, leather, cheese, and iron, and one day (Sept. 25th) is appropriated to the sale of horses.

SUTTON, about six miles from Ely, the church is esteemed one of the most beautiful, regular buildings in the county. It stands on a hill, and may be seen at a great distance. It has an elegant lofty square tower, on which are two octagon stories, adorned with spire-work and carving, and terminated by a small leaden spire.

TATTERSALL HALL, about one mile from Ely, derived its name from the late Mr. Tattersall, of sporting memory. The house is small, but, from its well chosen situation, commands a good prospect of the cathedral. It is surrounded by a paddock, and some rising plantations judiciously disposed. On the estate is a farm house, which obtained the title of Highflyer Hall, from the celebrated horse of that name having been kept there.

WIMPOLE, four miles from Caxton, is by far the most splendid private residence in Cambridgeshire, and

is the seat of Earl Hardwick. The mansion-house is a spacious brick structure with extensive wings. The interior of this fabric combines neatness with elegance, and has been improved by the present earl. The various apartments contain a magnificent assemblage of paintings. The grounds in the vicinity of the mansion are rather flat; but from some parts of the park, the views are extensive and beautiful.

WISBEACH, 89 miles from London, is a sea port and market town. *The Church*, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, is a spacious and handsome fabric, though of very singular construction, it being furnished with two naves and two aisles.

The principal articles of traffic are coals, corn, timber, and wine. The neighbouring lands are high in cultivation, chiefly on the grazing system. The inhabitants are wholly employed in commerce, there being no manufacture of any kind in the place, though the surrounding country produces immense quantities of hemp, wool, and flax. The market is abundantly supplied with poultry, fish, and butchers'-meat; and the trade of the town is further promoted by six annual fairs, for hemp, and flax, horned cattle, and horses.

Many improvements in the buildings have been made within the last 60 years. The education of youth is provided for by a free-school, and two charity schools, supported by voluntary contributions.

The number of houses is 1,058—Inhabitants 5,542.

CHESHIRE.

Length 42 miles. Breadth 33. Square miles 1,017. Square acres 650,880. Hundreds 7.—Market towns 12. Parishes 87. Houses 42,676. Persons 234,600.—Diocese of Chester Circuit.*—Members to parliament 4.—Militia men 560.

CHESHIRE is bounded on the north by the rivers Mersey and Tame, which separate it from Lancashire; on the east by the counties of Derby and Stafford, the division between which is chiefly marked by a chain of hills, and by the rivers Goyt and Dane. The southern side unites with Shropshire and Flintshire; and the western border is skirted by Denbighshire, Flintshire, and the estuary of the Dee.

This county possesses about 451,000 acres in pasturage, and nearly 50,000 acres of waste land, including woods. William the Conqueror made this a county palatinate, which he granted to his nephew, Hugh Lupus, giving him the same sovereignty that he had over the rest of the island; so that the Earls of Chester held parliaments, consisting of their barons and tenants; but the exorbitant power of the palatinates was much curtailed by Henry VIII. Since the reign of Edward III., the king's eldest son has been Earl of Chester, as well as Prince of Wales. This county contains many lakes and pools, well stored with fish; and is particularly famous for its salt and cheese. In some parts there are vast pits of solid rock-salt, some of which is exported in its crude state. Coals are found in considerable quantities, and in the hilly parts are stone quarries. Timber is not very plentiful; but the hedge-rows abound with oak, and there are many tanneries.

SOIL.—This county is in general flat, though it has some considerable hills rising near its eastern borders, and connected with those of Derbyshire and Staffordshire. The rest of the county is nearly level, and the principal part of it consists of arable, meadow, and pasture land. A variety of soil is found in this county, but clay, sand, black moor, or peat, seem to predominate; and the substratum

* Cheshire being a County Palatine, is not included in any circuit.

is commonly clay or marl. The red grit rock is the most prevalent stone of the county, and with this most of the towns and villages are built.

AGRICULTURE.—In the vicinity of manufacturing towns, and particularly on the borders of Lancashire and Yorkshire, many parcels of land have been purchased by tradesmen, and appropriated as small farms; but the greatest portion of the county is retained and cultivated by gentlemen, who reside on their own estates. The tenure is almost universally freehold. Leasing for lives was formerly a very constant and general practice, and the custom is yet continued by a few landholders; but the most common term is eleven years, with a restriction to a certain quantity of tillage and a particular rotation of crops. The extent of farms is on the average from 150 to 300 acres, but some few contain upwards of 500. The dairy is the principal object of attention with the Cheshire husbandman; and though the county has been for many ages celebrated for its cheese, yet formerly it was as much celebrated for its wheat.

MANUFACTURES.—The principal mineral productions of this county are salt and coal. A considerable quantity of coal is found on the eastern side, and some is obtained from the hundred of Wirral. Salt is more abundant in Cheshire than in any other part of England; the principal works are at Nantwich, Middlewich, Winsford, and Northwich. Next to the manufacture of salt, the cotton business seems to be the most considerable; there are also manufactories for leather, ribbon, thread, gloves, buttons and shoes, at Nantwich, Macclesfield, Congleton, Knutsford, &c.

RIVERS.—Most of the rivers and streams which wind through this county direct their currents northward, and empty themselves into the Mersey or the Dee. The Mersey derives its source from a conflux of small streams at the junction of the county with Derbyshire, and receives in its course the waters of the Goyt, the Tame, the Bollin, the Irwell, and the Weaver: after its junction with the latter, it swells into a broad estuary, and soon unites with the Irish Channel. The Dee derives its origin in the mountainous district of Merionethshire, and, after forming the large lake of Pimble-Mere, passes through a series of very picturesque and grand scenes, and approaches the

western border of this county; it then passes on to Chester, whose walls it nearly encircles, and afterwards flows to the west through an artificial channel, which was formed at much expense by the River Dee Company. This river joins the Irish sea about 14 miles from Chester. The Weaver derives its source from Ridley Pool, and passes Nantwich, Minshull, Weaver, Wainsford, and Northwich, where it is joined by the Dane, and two or three other streams from the central parts of the county. Hence it proceeds to Wareham, Acton Bridge, and Frodsham, where it falls into the swelling basin of the Mersey. Several other rivers meander through this county, the principal of which are the Goyt, the Bollin, the Dane, and the Whirlock.

CANALS.—Besides the Weaver navigation, this county is intersected by portions of four canals. The *Chester Canal*, begun in April 1772, and completed in a very short time, commences at the river Dee on the north side of Chester, and passing Christleton, Waverton, Hargrave, and the north of Beeston Castle, proceeds to Nantwich. A branch of the *Duke of Bridgwater's Canal* runs through about 20 miles of this county, entering it to the east of Ashton, and leaving it at Runcorn Gap, where it flows into the Mersey. The *Grand Trunk Canal* branches off from the above at Preston-Brook, and passing Northwich and Middlewich, leaves the county on the south-side, at Church Lawton. At Preston on the Hill, it passes through a tunnel 1,241 yards in length, and 17 feet 4 inches in height; and 13 feet 6 inches in width. A portion of *Ellesmere Canal* also crosses the western corner of this county, entering it at Pulford, and after uniting with the Dee at Chester, crosses the hundred of Wirral for about nine miles, and then joins the Mersey, thereby opening a short and easy passage between Chester and Liverpool.

Remarkable Places.

ALDERLEY PARK, five miles from Macclesfield, is the ancient inheritance of the Stanley family. The mansion is situated at the southern extremity of the park; it commands a fine view of a wood nearly a mile in length, principally consisting of remarkably fine beech trees. The ground rises rapidly from the park to the northward,

and forms the range of high hills called *Alderley Edge*, the highest point of which is about 360 feet above the church, and the view from it extremely magnificent.

ARDEN HALL, near Stockport, now occupied as a farm-house, was formerly the residence of the Arden family. This mansion is surrounded by a moat, and is composed of a center, and two wings, built in the form of an H. It stands on the brow of a steep hill; the ground-floor of the central part is entirely one spacious room, with a very high ceiling and large windows, yet supplying but little light: the upper rooms are small. This edifice contains a great number of paintings, but their general merit does not amount to mediocrity.

BEESTON ROCK, near Bunbury, is composed of sand-stone, very precipitous on one side, but on the other gradually sloping to the general level of the country. Its height is 366 feet, measuring from Beeston Bridge to the summit, whence the prospect is very extensive. On the crest of the rock are the stately ruins of the far-famed *Beeston Castle*, whose almost impregnable strength was once proverbial. This fortress was erected in 1220, by Randle Blundeville, Earl of Chester. The castle is defended on one side of the area by a vast ditch, cut out of the solid rock; on the other, by the abrupt precipice that overhangs the vale of Chester. The entrance is through a noble gateway, guarded on each side by a great round tower, with walls of prodigious thickness. The draw-well was of surprising depth, being sunk to a level with Beeston Brook, which flows beneath. The perpendicular side of the rock has a tremendous appearance, and is haunted by a kind of hawk, which builds in its clefts. This castle was closely besieged by the parliamentary forces, and near it the king was defeated by Poynts with considerable loss.

BERKINHEAD PRIORY was founded on the shore opposite Liverpool, by Haman Massie, third Baron of Dunham, about the latter end of the reign of Henry II., for monks of the Benedictine order. Some remains of this ancient structure are yet standing.

BOLESWORTH CASTLE, near Barn-hill, is the appellation of a spacious fabric, built in the Gothic style. The gardens and pleasure grounds are laid out in a very judicious manner, and possess considerable beauty. The

prospect of the adjacent country is particularly extensive.

BOOTH'S HALL, near Knutsford, is a plain structure, situated in an extensive park, ornamented with some fine pieces of water. The lake in front of the house is particularly beautiful, and the prospects surrounding it are very fine, the country being open to a great extent, and agreeably diversified. In this mansion is a large painting of the death of Dido, by Guercino.

BRAMHALL, near Macclesfield, the ancient seat of the family of Davenport, is situated on a rising ground, commanding an extensive prospect, and rendered pleasant by the contiguity of a small brook, which winds through the vale below. The windows are in a very antique form, and have been ornamented with representations in stained glass, but are now so broken and corroded, that nothing like a design can be traced. The east window contains several coats of arms of the Davenports and Bramhalls: various armorial distinctions are also depicted in different parts of the house.

BRERETON HALL, near Middlewich, was formerly the seat of the respectable family of Brereton; one of whom, Sir William Brereton, knt., built a magnificent brick edifice here, about the middle of the sixteenth century.

BROMBOROUGH HOUSE, near Eastham: this mansion is a handsome building of red stone, commanding a fine view of the river Mersey. The grounds are pleasant and judiciously laid out.

CARDEN, rather more than two miles from Farn. The mansion is a very respectable and venerable building, and the park and grounds are spacious and beautiful.

CHESTER, 182 miles from London, is situated near the southern boundary of the county, on a rocky eminence, above the river Dee, and is half encircled by a sweep of that river. The walls of the present city determine the limits of the ancient; and the form in which the buildings are disposed, is evidently the same as that of the Roman camp, running from a centre. This town principally consists of four streets, and each terminated by a gate. These streets were excavated from a stratum of rock,

and are sunk several feet beneath the surface; a circumstance that has been the cause of a singular construction in the houses. The streets were once considerably deeper, as is apparent from the shops, whose floors lie much below the present pavement; and in digging foundations for houses, the Roman pavement is often discovered at the depth of four feet below the modern.

This city in 1159, was the place of interview between Henry II., and Malcolm IV., King of Scotland, when the latter ceded to Henry the three counties of Cumberland, Northumberland, and Westmoreland, which had been wrested from the English crown.

Chester, for two or three centuries from the conquest, was the place of rendezvous for troops employed in the Welch expeditions, and frequently suffered during the continuance of the contest between the two nations. Richard II. converted Chester into a principality.

The CATHEDRAL is a spacious, irregular, and heavy pile, become ragged through the decay of the moulder-ing stone with which it is built.

CHESTER CASTLE, which stands within the walls, on the south-west side of the city, seems to have been rebuilt on the Norman model, by the Conqueror, and enlarged considerably beyond the space it occupied when possessed by the Saxons.

The walls round Chester are in circuit one mile, three quarters, and one hundred and one yards. They are the only *entire* specimens of ancient fortification, those of Carlisle excepted, in Great Britain, but are now only preserved for the purposes of recreation. The continued walk on the top affords a great variety of prospect.

The *Dee Bridge* is an ancient structure, with seven arches of dissimilar workmanship. The government of Chester is vested in a corporation, consisting of a mayor, two sheriffs, 24 aldermen, and 40 common councilmen. The courts of session, crown-mote, and port-mote, are held in a spacious and convenient room over the Exchange, which was built about the end of the 17th century. Near the exchange is the *Engine House*, a neat fabrick with fluted columns, and a rich Corinthian cornice.

The principal charitable institution of Chester is the *Blue Coat Hospital*, situated near the north gate.

The infirmary is a handsome structure, pleasantly situated in an airy spot, on the west side of the city. The port of Chester was much improved during the last century.

The market is particularly well supplied with fish, and is held on Wednesday and Saturday: the fair on the last Thursday in February, for cattle; and July 5th and October 10th for cattle, cloth, hardware, hops, &c. The number of houses is 3,472—inhabitants 16,140.

COMBERMERE ABBEY, near the banks of the deep water, called Comber-mere, was founded in the year 1133 for Cistercian Monks. In the reign of Henry VIII., it was granted to Wm. Cotton, Esq., and is still possessed by his descendants. The present mansion was built with the remains of the ancient abbey.

CREWE HALL, near Nantwich, was erected in the reign of James I., by Sir Randle Crewe, who has the praise of having introduced the first model of good building into Cheshire. This mansion is a very fine structure, and was built from a design given by Inigo Jones; the gardens are judiciously laid out, and enriched with plantations.

DODDINGTON HALL, three miles from Nantwich, the ancient seat of the family of that name: Sir Thomas Broughton, Bart., built a new and magnificent mansion about 30 years ago, at some distance from the old one, and in a more pleasant situation. The latter mansion was fortified and garrisoned during the civil wars, and was successively taken by both parties.

DUCKINFIELD LODGE, near Ashton-under-line, is a modern building, delightfully situated on an eminence above the river, covered with trees, and commanding a fine prospect. The rooms are chiefly small but elegant. In the front of the house is a raised terrace, affording a pleasing view: the precipitous rock descending from it is clothed with evergreens, and various trees and shrubs.

DURHAM MASSEY, three miles from Warrington, the seat of the Earl of Stamford, is one of the most

beautiful residences in Cheshire. The mansion is spacious, composed with brick, and of a quadrangular form, with a court in the centre. It contains many family pictures, but few or none of them of superior beauty: the park, in the midst of which the mansion is seated, is very extensive and full of fine timber, some of the oaks are of an extraordinary magnitude; and on their tops is a heronry, where many herons associate, and build in society like rooks. Many of the views are picturesque, and some grand.

EATON HALL, near Chester, the seat of Earl Grosvenor. The hall is a spacious, handsome, brick building, erected about the conclusion of the 17th century, by Sir John Vanbrugh, who also laid out the gardens, which are in the old formal style, with straight walks, and leaden statues; they are, however ornamented with several fine gates. The park is well stored with deer.

HALTON CASTLE, two miles from Frodsham, was built on a steep eminence and is now in ruins, having been demolished in the civil wars. The manor, from the posterity of Nigel, descended to the house of Lancaster, and was a favourite hunting-seat of John of Gaunt; but is now vested in the crown. The prospects from the castle are particularly interesting.

HOOTON HALL, near Stanlaw, the seat of the oldest branch of the Stanley family, is a very fine mansion, lately erected. Its situation is singularly beautiful, being near the eastern extremity of the Wirral hundred, on the banks of the Mersey, and commanding a fine view of that river, and all the contiguous county to Liverpool.

HYDE HALL, is situated in a romantic spot, on the banks of a small river, surrounded with bold swelling eminences, gradually sloping to the water's edge. The house is an ancient brick edifice, repaired with a plain front. It contains several good paintings, and among others, an original whole length of the great Earl Clarendon. The grounds are tolerably well wooded, and the general character of the seat is picturesque and elegant.

LYME HALL is built in an elevated situation, about three miles eastward of Poynton. The park is very

extensive, but the situation ill-chosen, as the surrounding country is bleak, moorish, and unfruitful. The plan of the building is quadrangular, but composed of very incongruous parts. The park is well stored with deer, and the venison is of a very superior flavour; the produce of the soil agreeing extremely well with the nature of those animals. This was the manor given by Edward the Black Prince, to Perkin à Legh, the ancestor of the present family, for his bravery in recovering a standard at the battle of Cressy.

MACCLESFIELD, 171 miles from London, was first incorporated by a charter, granted in the year 1261, by Prince Edward, son of Henry III., then Earl of Chester; it is in the parish of Pretsbury, and its two churches are therefore regarded only as chapels of ease to that parish. The new structure, called Christ Church, was built in the year 1775; it is a handsome building, ornamented with a neat tower, and pinnacles. In this town is a spacious and handsome free grammar-school, founded by Edward VI., with a roomy dwelling-house for the head master, and a field for the exercise and recreation of the scholars. The dissenters from the established religion are numerous, and are provided with five distinct places of worship. Coal is very plentiful in this neighbourhood, which supplies most of the fuel consumed in the surrounding country.

MOLLINGTON HOUSE, near Chester, is a spacious brick edifice, much improved. The grounds are pleasant and well wooded.

NESTON (Great), 10 miles from Chester, is a populous market town, commanding some pleasant views of the Dee, and the opposite coasts of Wales. The church is a handsome and spacious structure, and many of the houses are good modern buildings. The inhabitants derive considerable advantage from the contiguity of Park Gate, which of late years has become a convenient and fashionable bathing-place. The houses of Park Gate are chiefly disposed in one long range on the Dee banks, and are mostly neat modern buildings of brick. This town contains 317 houses, and 1,486 inhabitants.

NORTHWICH, 10 miles from Nantwich, is a large and ancient town, near the conflux of the river Dane with

the Weaver. The streets are irregular and badly paved; and many of the houses are of considerable antiquity. The church is spacious, and is remarkable for the peculiarity of its choir, which is semicircular. From the central situation of this town, and the circumstance of its being surrounded with gentlemen's seats, it has become a place of considerable resort for the transaction of public and other business. Many of the inhabitants are employed in the cotton manufacture and the salt works. Here are mines of rock salt dug to a great depth, and extending over several acres; the inside, with its crystal roof supported by pillars, has a beautiful appearance from the numerous candles burnt to light the workmen, who dig the salt with pick-axes.

The market is on Friday. The fairs August 2, and December 6. The number of houses 340, inhabitants 1,338.

OVERLEIGH HALL is about one mile from Chester on the road to Flint. The ancient manor-house was demolished during the siege of Chester. The present mansion was not erected till after the Restoration. It contains a good library, and a great number of old portraits, particularly some valuable ones of the Cromwell family.

PEEL HALL, near Malpas, is perhaps one of the most magnificent of all the old mansions in this county, though it is now only inhabited as a farm. It belongs to the Earl of Plymouth, but was formerly the residence of Colonel Roger Whitley, who was here honoured with a visit from James II.

POYNTON, within four miles of Stockport, is an ancient inheritance of the Warren family, whose elegant mansion here is built in the Ionic order. The pleasure grounds are beautiful, and are decorated with a handsome sheet of water. The park is very extensive, and judiciously disposed.

ROCK SAVAGE, near Halton, is a magnificent pile of ruins, and seated on a rising ground above the river Weaver, the property of Marquess Cholmondeley. Some portion of its stately front is still standing, as well as part of one of its sides.

SHOCKLACH, near Chester, had anciently a castle. Its place is occupied by a handsome mansion, formerly the residence of the Breretons. The moat that surrounded

the fortress still remains; and on the opposite side of the road is a vast mount.

STOCKPORT, on the Mersey, 173 miles from London. The spot on which this town is built is very irregular. The parish church and market-place are situated on the summit of a hill, affording a level of considerable extent. Some of the houses have apartments hollowed out of the rock; and the appearance of the whole, when closely surveyed, is very singular. An upper row of houses on the summit of the rock completely encircles the market-place, which is spacious and convenient. From this central part the town branches off in different directions, and by the late increase of buildings, has extended on every side into the country.

The places of religious worship at Stockport are the two churches of St. Mary and St. Peter, and six meeting-houses; one for Calvinists, two for presbyterians, two for methodists, and one for quakers. St. Mary's church, which is the most ancient, is a spacious structure, consisting of a nave, a chancel, and side aisles. This town is indebted for its consequence to its numerous manufactures. The cotton trade of Stockport is now so considerable, that, besides a large number of cotton-spinning shops, here are 23 spacious cotton factories, some of them worked by steam-engines. The making of hats is likewise a considerable branch of employment. The streets are irregular, and some of them so very steep, that loaded carts are obliged to be checked in going down by three or four horses. In this town and its vicinity are several bridges. Near the old bridge is the very ancient residence of the Ardens. This mansion is only wood and plaster, but, being preserved in good repair, has a venerable appearance. Between Stockport and the foundation of the new bridge, a very extensive cotton-factory has been erected, the water for which is conveyed from the Mersey by a subterraneous tunnel. This town was once incorporated, but is now governed by a high constable.

The market is on Friday. The fairs on the 4th and 25th of March, 1st May, and 23d of October, which are well supplied with cheese and oatmeal. The number of houses 2,572, and inhabitants 14,830.

TABLEY, near Knutsford, was the ancient seat of the

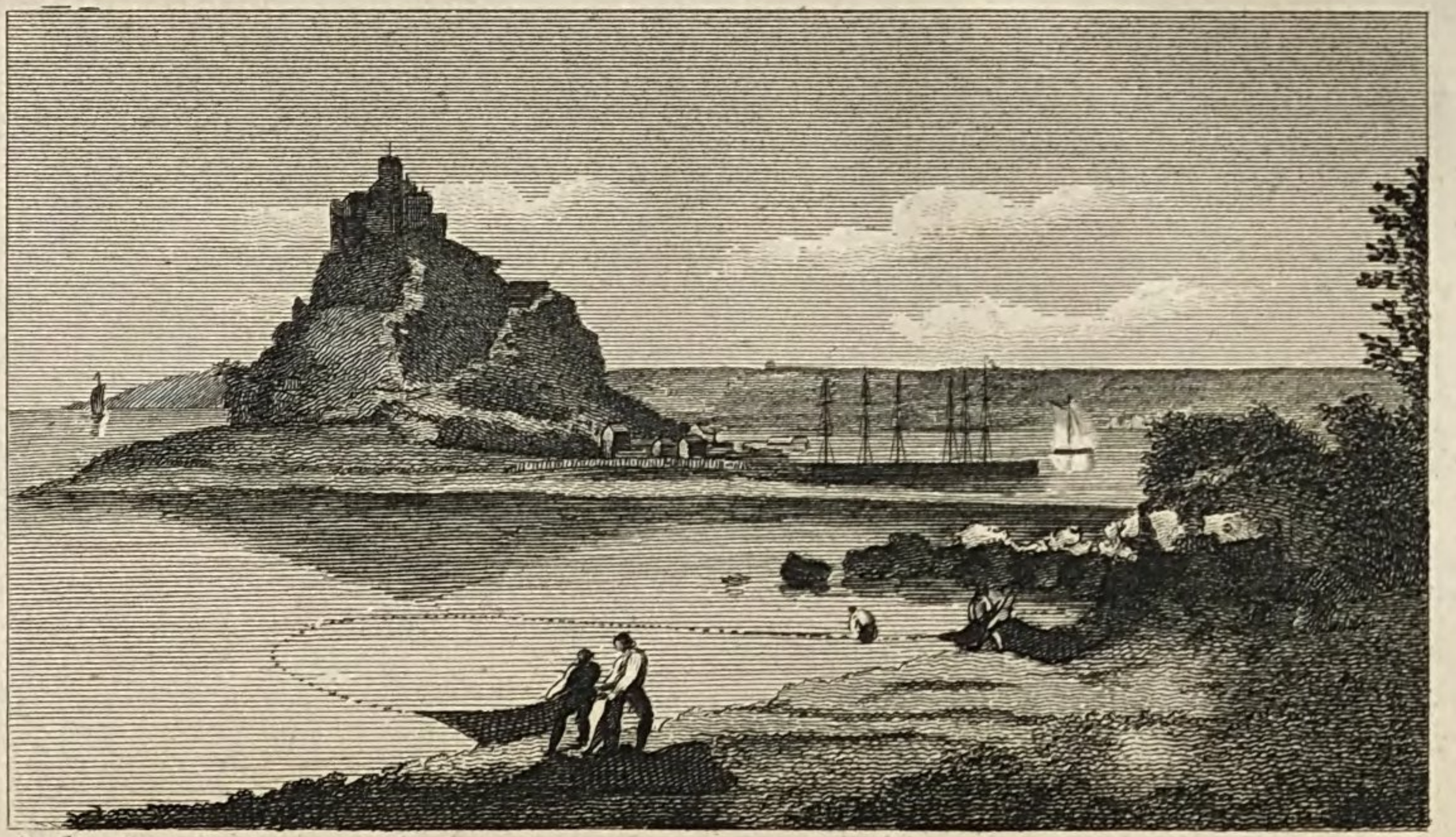
Leicester family. Part of the ancient family residence still remains. It is seated in a low sequestered spot, on a small island, and surrounded with a fine lake. The present mansion is a large and handsome edifice of the Doric order, composed of brick and stone. The interior of the house contains some good pictures by ancient and modern masters. The grounds are ornamented by an extensive sheet of water.

TATTON HALL, near Knutsford, is situated in the midst of a park, containing nearly 2,500 acres of arable and pasture land. It stands on an elevated spot of ground, from the front of which a lawn gradually declines to the level of Tattonmere, a fine piece of water, about half a mile from the house. The gardens are extensive, and the pinery is remarkably spacious and well constructed.

VALE ROYAL ABBEY is situated near the centre of the county, on the east of Delamere Forest. The hall of the present mansion was erected about 200 years ago, and is a very fine room, nearly 70 feet in length. The wings were rebuilt a few years since. The apartments are embellished with a great number of family and other portraits. The library is very large and valuable. Among its most choice rarities are writings called the "Prophecies of Nixon," the famous Cheshire prophet; these are preserved with the greatest care, no stranger being permitted to see them.

WALLISEA, four miles from Liverpool, is a spacious but deserted mansion, near the village of the same name. Between one and two miles from Wallisea a very noble hotel has been erected for the accommodation of persons visiting the sea-side, and bathing in Hyle Lake.

WINNINGTON HALL, one mile from Northwich, the residence of Lord Penrhyn, is a beautifully-sequestered seat, in a fertile and pleasant valley near the banks of the river Weaver. In the park is a magnificent poultry-house, where the most rare and curious fowls are kept.



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Neele & Son sc.

St. Michaels Mount.

CORNWALL.

Length 80 miles. Breadth 48. Circumference 250. Square miles 1,407. Square acres 900,480. Hundreds 9. Market towns 37. Parishes 212. Houses 39,812. Persons 223,900.—Diocese of Exeter.—Western Circuit.—Members to parliament 44. Militiamen 640.

BOUNDARIES.—On the north side of Cornwall is the Bristol, on the south the British, Channel, and on the east is Devonshire, from which it is separated by the river Tamar. This county, from its soil, appearance, and climate, is apparently one of the least inviting. The air is rendered extremely moist by the surrounding body of water; and the clouds being intercepted in their passage by the high lands in the centre of the county, occasion frequent and severe showers. The seasons are more equal than in most other parts of England; the heat of summer seldom being intense, or the cold of winter piercing. Frosts are but of short duration, and snow seldom lies upon the ground above two or three days.

Cornwall possesses more parliamentary boroughs than any other county in the kingdom, and the number of its representatives is also greater; the members returned to the House of Commons, being no less than 44, and many of them from places extremely inconsiderable, either with respect to trade, wealth, or inhabitants. Cornwall exceeds every other county in the value and extent of its mineral productions, and in the quantities of fish with which the rivers and adjacent sea abound. It has been celebrated for its tin for many centuries, and the commerce in that article is deemed of such high importance, that special courts for regulating the miners, called Stannary Courts, are established in this and the adjoining counties. From these mines are derived the principal revenues of the Duke of Cornwall. Some valuable copper mines are also in this county, which likewise produce lead, lapis calaminaris, soap-rock, and excellent potter's clay. Pilchards, the chief produce of the fisheries, not

only supply food for the miners and the poor, but are sent in great quantities in a cured state to the Mediterranean. The eastern part of the county produces good cider. The dialect of Cornwall, a mixture of Armorican and Welch, is by the power of civilization, become nearly extinct. The submarine plants on the Cornish coast are extremely beautiful; and though in number and variety they may be inferior to those nourished by the earth, yet in firmness of texture, and brilliance of colouring, they are probably superior. Great variety of corallines are found on this coast, attached to the sides of rocks like fringes, emulating in strength of colouring the most beautiful carpet. Three sorts of white coral have also been found on these shores. The variety of sea sands round Cornwall is perhaps greater than in any other county in Great Britain; the sand of almost every cove being different.

Soil.—One third of this county is uncultivated, about one third in tillage, and the residue in pasturage. The waste lands chiefly consist of marshy grounds, intermixed with rocks and mountains, occasionally relieved by extensive level tracts, which, under proper culture, would yield an abundant and profitable produce. The wood lands are not numerous, but have been recently much increased by the extensive plantations with which the resident great proprietors have embellished their estates; and many valleys on the Tamar, the Looe, the Camel, &c., are well clothed with timber and coppice wood. The bleak sea air to which this county is particularly liable from its geographical position, is considered to be particularly injurious to the growth of timber. Clays are found in great variety, and are extremely useful in many branches of art and manufacture. The yellow clay of St. Kevran, is nearly equal to the best quality for casting in silver, brass, or lead. The yellow clay of Launant is in equal repute for making bricks capable of resisting the most intense heat. A ridge of bare and rugged hills extending from one end of the county to the other, the roads being made over the higher lands, and intersecting extensive commons, impresses the traveller with too great an idea of sterility. The sea shores and the valleys teem with abundant fertility. The sea not only supplies fish for

commerce, but manure for agriculture; the weeds collected on the beach, and the sea sand render still more prolific the natural richness of the soil.

AGRICULTURE.—The art of husbandry, three centuries ago, appears to have been little practised in this county, and at the present era agriculture is considered a secondary pursuit. Although in the neighbourhood of Padstow and St. Germains, and in the lands adjacent to the Alan and Fâwy, a greater quantity of grain is grown than is sufficient for the inhabitants, yet the produce of less fertile districts is very inadequate to the demand. The land is converted alternately to arable and pasture; and the vicious practice of growing corn until the earth is exhausted is the only preparation for subsequent pasture. There are few water meadows, and those principally connected with the estates of gentlemen. The duchy lands are usually held on leases for lives, renewable for a fine certain, or calculated on their improved value. The other farms are held for terms of years or leases for lives, and are in general very small. The manures mostly used are sea sand and weeds; a compost is often made of lime and earth sand mixed with damaged pilchards and refuse salt. In some places a preparation for turnips is composed of sea-sand, pilchard-salt, dung, and decomposed schistus. The cattle and sheep are chiefly of the Devonshire breed. The dairy is little attended to, and the milch cows are principally kept for rearing young stock.

MANUFACTURES.—The numerous mines of this county have for many centuries furnished employment to thousands of its inhabitants, and in a national view are of the greatest relative importance. The population supported by the mines is estimated at 60,000, exclusive of artizans, tradesmen, and merchants. The produce of the mines is chiefly tin, copper, and some lead. *Tin* is certainly the most valuable; and though in itself the lightest of metals, is in its ore the heaviest. It melts in a gentle heat, and is sufficiently ductile to be spread into leaf, but cannot be drawn into wire. *Copper ores* are also found in abundance and variety, and are estimated at a medium valuation, to produce 350,000*l.* annually. *Lead* mines are not numerous, but the ore is generally reputed to be incorporated with silver. Lead when refined is the softest of all

metals. *Gold* has frequently been discovered in this county, but the quantity is not sufficient to authorize expensive works to obtain it. Minute particles are often seen in stream-tin, and some specimens have been found incorporated with tin crystals in streaks. *Silver*, in the reigns of Edward I. and Edward III. is said to have been procured in great quantities. Latterly a lode was discovered near the sea, between St. Agnes and St. Michael, and has been worked with some advantage. *Iron ores* also exist in abundance; but coal being distant, the expense of working the lodes is greater than the value of the iron produced. The principal semi-metals of Cornwall are bismuth, zinc, antimony, cobalt, arsenic, wolfram, menachanite, and molybdena.

RIVERS.—The *Tamar* is one of the most considerable rivers in the west of England; its banks are richly diversified with rocks, woods, and meadows, and the scenery in various parts of its course is extremely interesting and beautiful. This river rises in a moor, near Morviuston, pursues a southerly course by Tamerton, to the vicinage of Launceston. It then effects a junction with the Lyd and the Tavy, and, resuming its southern direction, unites with Lynher Creek, and, continually increasing in importance, forms, between Dock and Saltash, the spacious basin called the Hamoaze; then issuing between Mount Edgcumbe and the Devil's point, it unites with the waters of the Plym, and the conflux of these rivers with the sea produces the noble road for shipping, named Plymouth Sound. The *Lynher* derives its source from the hills in Alternon parish, and passes within one mile of Callington, and thence winding through a varied country, continues its course between Shevioc and St. Stephen. Soon afterwards it receives the waters of Tidi; and between Trematon Castle and Anthony, spreads into the form of a lake, named Lynher Creek, which empties itself into the Tamar, about a mile below Saltash. The *Looe* is composed of two branches, one of which descends from the high lands of St. Cleer, and flows about a mile west of Liskeard: the other rises in the parish of St. Pinnoc, and is sometimes called the Trelawney river. They unite at some distance below Trenant Park, and flowing between West and East Looe, empty themselves into the British

channel. The *Fawy* rises at Fawy-well, it meanders through a varied and beautiful country, till it reaches Lestwithiel, its current being afterwards swelled by several small rivulets, expands into a deep and wide haven, and near Fowy opens into the sea. The river is navigable nearly to Lestwithiel, and the scenery on its banks is particularly beautiful and picturesque. The *Camel*, or *Alan*, rises near the rocky hills of Rough Tor, and passes Camelford; thence it flows in a very circuitous channel to the north of Bodmin, below which it becomes navigable for barges near Egloshêl; its stream is afterwards increased by several smaller rivers, and flowing onward, pours its congregated waters into the harbour of Padstow, which opens into the Bristol channel. The *Fal* is the most considerable river in the central part of Cornwall; it rises at Fenton-val, and flowing southerly, is expanded by various tributary rills into a plentiful stream near Grampound, and afterwards swells into a large basin, near Truro. In this neighbourhood its waters are increased by several streams, and its receding and deeply indented banks form several small creeks and bays. All its branches unite in the capacious reservoir called Carreg Rode, and extending onward to the sea, form the spacious harbour of Falmouth. The *Loe* and the *Hel* have their origin among the hills of Weldron parish, and flowing towards Helston, descend from that borough in different directions to the sea. The estuaries of both these rivers are very extensive. The *Heyl* is formed by four brooks, which unite near Relubbas, and pursue a westerly direction through the lower part of Cornwall to St. Hilary; whence flowing to the north, it forms the noble estuary which opens into the bay of St. Ives.

Remarkable Places.

ANTHONY HOUSE is a large square modern building, pleasantly situated on a branch of the Lynher Creek, and nearly opposite Trematon Castle. It contains a collection of old portraits and some paintings.

BOCONNOC HOUSE, near Lestwithiel, is a convenient but not magnificent structure, situated in a lawn of nearly 100 acres adjoining the park. The gallery and several apartments are ornamented with portraits. Among

the rare and choice furniture preserved in this mansion is a rich antique cabinet of tortoiseshell, inlaid with silver, representing all the principal subjects in Ovid's Metamorphoses; a small table; a pair of carved ebony chairs, made out of the cradle belonging to the children of James I., and a very elegant and tastefully disposed collection of old china. In the park are some vestiges of ancient lead mines; the neighbouring grounds are varied and broken, and possess considerable beauty from being adorned with woody scenery, and retired vales, each watered by a babbling but pellucid brook, forming by their confluence the little river Lerryn.

CARCLEW, two miles from Penryn, is pleasantly seated on a gentle eminence, rising from the valley through which the Carron Stream Works are conducted. The mansion is a neat uniform modern building, of the Ionic order, faced with granite, having a regular portico. The centre is connected with wings by two uniform colonnades. Here are a few good paintings, and the house is fitted up with much taste and convenience.

CARN-BREH HILL, two miles from Tehidy, has generally been considered as the grand centre of Druidical worship in this county. The Druidical remains on this spot are bold, stupendous, and multifarious; and consist of nearly every species of Druid monuments.

CARN-BREH CASTLE stands at the eastern end of Carn-breh Hill, on the ledge of vast rocks; one part of this fortress is very ancient, and pierced with loop-holes; but the other is of more modern construction, and seems to have been raised to embellish the prospect from Tehidy, of which it is full in sight. It commands a vast horizon, and the views, from the nature of the country, have a very peculiar character.

CARRATON DOWN. Here is a single upright stone, about ten feet high, having a disk with the figure of a cross in relief cut on the west front. Many rude obelisks of this kind are remaining in different parts of the county, but they are not all figured with the cross.

CLOWANCE, in the parish of Crowan, is a pleasant and elegant retreat in the midst of a dreary country. The park is large, and surrounded by a high wall; and the pleasure grounds are rendered singularly delightful in this

unsheltered part of the county by the abundance of spreading trees which shade its meandering walks. Among the pictures are several of curiosity and value.

COTHELE HOUSE, in the parish of Calstock, is an ancient mansion, situated on a bold knoll on the western bank of the river; but so surrounded with wood, that the water can only be seen from some of the higher apartments. This mansion is an object of much curiosity from the antiquity of the furniture, which is reported to have been of the workmanship of the days of Henry VIII. and Queen Elizabeth, and to have remained in the house ever since the reign of the latter sovereign. The hall contains a great collection of ancient armour, arquebusses, pikes, and other implements of war, ranged against the walls in various forms.

FALMOUTH, 273 miles from London. Its improvement and progress during the last century, have in a considerable degree been connected with the establishment of packet boats here for Spain, Portugal, and the West Indies. Considerable quantities of gold, both in specie and in bars, are brought into this port by the packets from Spain and Portugal. The pilchard trade has likewise been a source of much emolument to the inhabitants. This town is situated at the bottom of an eminence, which commands the harbour. The houses are principally disposed in one street, nearly a mile in length, and running by the side of the beech. The quay is extremely convenient; and the harbour is capacious. The custom-house and salt-office for most of the Cornish towns are established at Falmouth.

HAREWOOD HOUSE is a handsome modern building, situated at the distance of one mile from Calstock. From the grounds, which form the most eastern extremity of the county, the Tamar is seen sweeping with uncommon beauty through the most varied scenes of wood, rock, and pleasing cultivation.

HELIGAN, near Mevagissey. The grounds are extremely fine, and parts of the contiguous scenery very beautiful.

HELSTON, 14 miles from Falmouth, is a large populous town, situated on the side of a hill, which slopes gradually to the little river Cober. The houses are chiefly

disposed in four streets; and near the middle of the principal street is the market-house and town-hall. Though this is one of the original stannary towns, very little tin is now coined here. The corporation consists of a mayor, five aldermen, a recorder, and an indefinite number of freemen. The number of voters is about 36.

The market is on Saturday; the fairs March 13, July 20, September 9, November 8, second Saturday before St. Thomas's day, Saturdays before Midlent and Palm Sundays and on Whit Monday; houses 301, inhabitants 2,248.

KYNANCE COVE is situated about a mile north-west of the Lizard Point, and may be regarded as one of the most extraordinary spots on the coast. The descent to it is extremely steep and overhung by large crags. The cove is formed by huge rocks of an immense height, partly projecting into the sea: the rocks are composed entirely of serpentine, varying in colour internally, but on the outside of a very dark green, having veins of lighter green, white and scarlet. The rocks are extremely interesting to the mineralogist, from the opportunities they afford of observing the gradations and transitions of various substances into each other.

LANHYDROC, two miles from Bodmin, is a venerable mansion which occupies three sides of a quadrangle: the rooms are very low, and ornamented with a profusion of uncouth and ill-executed plastered figures, either pendant from the ceiling or attached to the cornices; the windows are all large, and divided by stone mullions, and on the north side is a gallery 116 feet in length. The ceiling of this apartment is ornamented with a rude delineation of the creation.

LAND'S END is the most westerly promontory in England, and when considered with all its adjuncts, cannot fail of awakening the united sensations of awe, terror, and admiration even in the most placid bosom. The huge and rugged rocks forming a barrier to the tumultuous sea; the immense expanse and ceaseless roar of the waters; the constantly changeful effects of light and shade playing on the surface of the deep; the gliding vessels sailing in all directions; the various aquatic birds wildly screaming at the sight of man, or pursuing their instinctive pro-

pensities on the surface of the howling billows; all combine on this spot to rivet the attention, and fill the mind with emotions of astonishment at the sublimity of the prospect.

LANHIVET a small village about three miles from Bodmin; here are the ruins of a religious house, called St. Bennett's, which was formerly attached to the priory at Bodmin. These remains are situated in a narrow valley on the banks of a rivulet, and are considerably mutilated. In Lanhivet church-yard are two high stone crosses.

LAUNCESTON, 213 miles from London, is a populous town, pleasantly situated on an eminence and deep declivity, near the central part of the east side of the county. The CASTLE is the most important object in the town. Its mouldering walls surround and cover a considerable extent of ground, and prove it to have been a very strong and important fortress. The era in which the town was founded, or at least began to assume a regular form, was about the year 900. Its foundation is ascribed to Eadulphus, brother to Alpsius, Duke of Devon and Cornwall. The government of this town is vested in a mayor, a recorder, and eight aldermen, who, with the free burgesses, have the right of electing the parliamentary representatives. The whole number of voters is about twenty.

The markets are on Wednesday and Saturday; the fairs the first Thursday in March, third Thursday in April, Whit Monday, July 5, November 17, and December 6. Number of houses 223, inhabitants 1,483.

LISKEARD, 237 miles from London, is partly situated on rocky hills, and partly in a bottom, and through this inequality of the ground, the streets have the appearance of being disposed with studied irregularity. On an eminence north of the town are the crumbling foundations of a castle, but every trace of its shape and architecture is nearly obliterated. Liskeard, at the time of the Doomsday survey, was possessed by Robert, Earl of Morton and Cornwall; but was first constituted a free borough by Richard, brother to Henry III., by charter dated June 5, 1240. The government of the town is vested in a mayor, recorder, eight capital burgesses, and fifteen as-

sistants, who, with the other freemen of the borough, are empowered to elect the members of parliament.

This town has a very considerable market on Saturday; the fairs are on Monday fortnight before Christmas, Shrove Monday, Monday before Easter, Holy Thursday, August 15, and October 2; number of houses 462, inhabitants 2,708.

LIZARD POINT. Here are two light-houses, raised as beacons to warn the mariner from steering too close to the shore. Wrecks, however, are continually occurring, but chiefly of foreign vessels, who, unacquainted with the dangers of the coast, seldom keep at a sufficient distance to avoid its perils.

LOGAN, or *Rocking Stones*, there are many in most rocky places in the county; from the concurring testimony of the best informed persons on this subject, there can be no hesitation in attributing them to nature, though many have asserted, that they were raised by the Druids. The most considerable and curious of the *Logan-stones* in Cornwall, is that at Treryn Castle, in the parish of St. Levan. This extraordinary stone is poised on the top of an immense pile of rocks, which projects into the sea, and, from its awful situation, the massive grandeur of its supporters, and the continual roaring and dashing of the waves below, seems peculiarly calculated to inspire the mind with blended emotions of admiration and terror.

MENABILLY, is situated about three miles west of that borough, on an eminence at a short distance from the sea. The mansion is built with stone, and commands an extensive prospect over the British channel. It contains the most rich and magnificent collection of minerals of any in Cornwall, or perhaps in the kingdom; some idea of their extent may be formed from the fact, that the varieties of copper alone amount to nearly 1,000.

MORVAL, near Liskeard, is a fine old seat of the Buller family; the situation is pleasant, and the neighbouring views are picturesque and beautiful. Of *Shillingham*, the more ancient seat of this family, little remains, except the ruins of an elegant Gothic chapel, now covered with ivy.

PENDARVES, near Crowan. The house is a large, handsome, modern building, and two of its fronts consist of squared granite. It is erected on an eminence, and commands some extensive views over the western part of the county. The southern front overlooks a large piece of artificial water; and in a contiguous field is a *cromlech*, consisting of three upright stones, and another covering them.

PENTILLY CASTLE, is beautifully situated on the swelling banks of the Tamar, about three miles below Cotchele. The declivities towards the river are most luxuriantly wooded, and fine tall elms and limes, picturesque from age, stretch their broad branches over the approach to the mansion, which obtained the appellation of castle from its embattled form; this, however, is its only point of resemblance, for the building is modern.

PORT ELIOT occupies the site of the ancient priory of St. German, the refectory of which included the space now used in the dining-room. This mansion is externally very irregular, but many of the apartments are convenient and spacious. Most of them are decorated with paintings, by ancient and modern masters. Among the peculiar objects which characterize the contiguous scenery, may be noticed, a branch of the river Tidi, which spreads its waters into a lake-like expanse. On the banks of this river is a place called Craggs, which has been appropriated to pleasure grounds. The peculiarity and contrast of the neighbouring rocks and woods, render its appearance singularly romantic.

POLVELLAN, stands at a distance from west Looe, on the north; and when the tide is in, commands a beautiful view over the confluence of the Looe and Trelawny rivers, both of which are seen from the house, retiring in perspective for several miles, amidst steep broken banks, principally covered with wood.

POLGOOTH, two miles from St. Austel, is particularly distinguished by its extensive and rich tin mines. The surrounding country appears for many miles bleak, desolate, and barren; but its bowels contain vast treasures; though, as a modern writer has observed, "like

the shabby mien of a miser, its aspect does not correspond with its hoards." The number of shafts are not less than fifty, from twenty to thirty of which are constantly in use. The descent into the mine is by means of ladders, placed almost perpendicularly: at the foot of each ladder is a narrow break, or landing-place; and at certain intervals, are openings into different beds of ore. At about 50 or 60 feet below the surface of this mine, the water that percolates through the different strata begins to form small streams, which would soon increase, and overflow the lower part of the mine, if not constantly conveyed away. This process is performed by a stupendous steam-engine, which raises the water to the adit level, like the fountain of a river. The revenues now obtained from it are very great: but it has not always been so productive; about the year 1754, it stopped working, the receipts having exceeded the charges only ten pounds in the preceding ten years, though the expenditure during that time was £100,000.

PENGERSWICK CASTLE is situated on the border of a small creek, in a bottom, at the village of Pengerswick; the present remains consist only of a square tower of three stories, a small one annexed, and some fragments of walls: the whole is faced with squared stone. Many of the apartments are fallen in; those which remain are used as granaries and haylofts, by one of the neighbouring farmers. The wainscot of the first floor is of oak, curiously carved and painted.

PENROSE, is situated in the midst of a finely wooded scene, about two miles from Helston. This seat formerly belonged to the *Penrose* family. Here are some fine hanging woods, but what more peculiarly characterizes the place, is a large and fine piece of water called *The Loe-Pool*; this forms one of the most considerable lakes in the county.

RESTORMEL CASTLE, one mile from Lostwithiel, a fortress magnificent in ruin, and proudly exalting its ivy-clad wall, above the contiguous narrow-winding valleys, was one of the principal residences of the Earls of Cornwall. Richard, King of the Romans, kept his court here, and his son Edmund was also an inhabitant

of this castle; and though it is now only tenanted by the owl, the bat, and the daw, yet the grandeur of its ruins, and the importance they communicate to the surrounding scenery, render it peculiarly interesting.

THE SCILLY ISLANDS are situated in a group or cluster, about nine leagues westward of the Land's End; and, however inconsiderable in their present state, were earlier and better known to the ancients than most other parts of Great Britain. Their original denomination was the *Cassiterides*, or Tin Isles. When the Scilly Islands were first possessed by the Romans is uncertain; but, during their dominion in Britain, they appear to have been known only as the place of banishment for disgraced nobles. In the passage from Penzance is a dangerous ledge of rocks, called the *Gulf* or *Wolf*. Other rocks, named the *Bucks*, the *Kennel*, and the *Seven Stones*, also impede the navigation, and render this passage dangerous to all who have not a perfect acquaintance with the coast. The air is mild and healthy; the winters are never severe; and the heat of the summer is rendered moderate by the sea breezes. The soil is productive, but the wheat is at present grown in much less quantity than formerly; the grain most abundant is barley. The horses and cattle are but small; sheep and rabbits are plentiful; and wild and domestic fowl are bred here in great numbers. The inhabitants are chiefly employed in husbandry, fishing, and making kelp.

ST. CLEER, near Liskeard, is interesting from its handsome church, its consecrated fountain, and various Druidical and other antiquities. In the vicinity of this village are several objects that have often excited the attention of antiquaries and the curiosity of travellers. These are the *Hurlers*, the *Cheese Wring*, the *Other Half Stone*, and a *Cromlech*, more curious and of greater magnitude than that of Mona.

ST. COLUMB, 13 miles from Bodmin, is a considerable market town, principally consisting of one decent paved street. Near this town, on an eminence, is a great circular earth-work triple trenched, named Castle An-Dinas, or the Hill Castle. The seat of the Arundells at Lanherne is now inhabited by Carmelite nuns.

St. Columb has a market on Monday and Thursday. Fairs on Thursday after 13th November, and Thursday in Midlent. Number of houses 309—inhabitants 1,816.

ST. GERMAIN'S, 226 miles from London, is an inconsiderable borough town, pleasantly situated near a branch of the Lynher creek, on the ascent of a hill, which rises to a considerable height on the south side. The houses are disposed in one street, which, from the nature of the ground, runs nearly parallel with the roof of the church. The inhabitants derive their principal support from fishing. The householders, who have resided a year within the town, are nominally invested with the privilege of returning two members to parliament; but the actual right is possessed by the proprietors of what are denominated the burgage tenements. The present number of voters is not more than 20. The only officer of this town is the Port-reeve, who is also bailiff of the borough. The only objects that render this town of importance are the remains of its ancient cathedral church, and the seat of Lord Eliot, which is in the immediate vicinity of the former structure, and was originally the site of the priory.

Market on Friday. Fairs on May 28 and August 1. Number of houses 350—inhabitants 2,030.

ST. IVES, five miles from Callington, is a populous seaport town, situated near the north-east angle of a very fine bay, bounded by bold rocks of black killas. The church is a low but spacious building, having a nave and two aisles; from its situation near the shore, it is frequently covered at high tides and tempests with the spray of the sea. The chief articles of exportation are slate and pilchards. This port, as well as most others on the north coast, is greatly incommoded by the sand driven in by the north-west winds. The government of the town is vested in a mayor, recorder, 12 capital and 24 inferior burgesses. The right of election is possessed by the corporation, and all the inhabitants paying scot and lot; the voters are about 180.

The markets are on Wednesday and Saturday. A fair on Saturday before Advent Sunday. Number of houses 77—inhabitants 486.

ST. KEYNE'S WELL, classed among the Cornish na-

tural wonders, is perhaps from the peculiar properties attributed by tradition to its waters, more distinguished by conversation than most other springs, however renowned for their sanative effects.

ST. MICHAEL'S MOUNT, near Penzance, is one of those rare and commanding objects which arrest and fix the attention the moment they are seen. Its peculiar situation, and the sublime character it assumes, from appearing to rise immediately from the waves, singularly interest the imagination. From various stations its appearance is different, being in some places nearly perpendicular, and at others of a gentle declivity.

TEHIDY PARK, the seat of Lord de Dunstanville, is situated about four miles from Redruth. This mansion is ornamented with some good paintings. The whole extent of the park and grounds is about 700 acres, of which 150 are appropriated to a lawn and sheep-walk, and 130 are in woodland.

TINTAGELL, or King Arthur's Castle, near Camelford, was a strong fortress, now in ruins, standing partly on the main land, and partly on a bold slaty promontory, almost separated from the shore by an immense chasm in the cliff. The whole is constructed with slate, which is pierced with loop-holes for discharging arrows. It has been conjectured that this was once the royal residence of the British King Arthur. The rocks on this part of the coast are very majestic and bold, and soar to a vast height.

TREBARTHA HALL is situated about seven miles west of Launceston, in a fertile pleasant valley, where the mountainous and woody scenery to the west, with a roaring torrent dashing over immense fragments of rocks, constitute several scenes singularly picturesque and romantic.

TREGOTHNAN HOUSE, three miles from Truro, the seat of Lord Viscount Falmouth, stands on a rising ground near the Fal, over which river and the adjacent harbour of Falmouth, it commands several fine views; the prospects on the land-side are extensive. The lawn, the plantations, and the pleasure-grounds, are modern.

TRELAWNY HOUSE, near the Lows, a seat of the Trelawny family, is a venerable mansion apparently of the age of Elizabeth, situated in the neighbourhood of some

beautiful scenes, about three miles from the river Looe. The valley, in which is Trelawny Mill, is one of the most delightful in the west of England.

TREMATON CASTLE.—The remains of this once formidable structure are still very considerable; and when seen from the east, have an aspect of great boldness and grandeur. It belongs to the Prince of Wales, who has a court held here twice a-year for receiving rents and other purposes.

TREWARTHENICK, near Tregony, is on the bank of the Fal. The house is charmingly seated on an elevated piece of ground, which abounds with fine groves, and commands several rich prospects.

TRURO, 257 miles from London, though of no very remote antiquity, may be called the metropolis of Cornwall. It is situated in a vale, at the conflux of the two small rivers, Kenwyn and St. Allen, which direct their streams on each side of the town, and at the bottom unite with a branch of Falmouth harbour. This town is situated in the three parishes of St. Mary, St. Clement, and Kenwyn; the former occupying its central parts, and portions of the two latter its eastern and western sides. St. Mary's is a spacious fabric, of that elegant kind of architecture which flourished in England about the reign of Henry VII. Most of the tin is coined here, and more is exported hence than from any other port in the county. Here is a coinage hall; also a manufactory for converting block-tin into bars and ingots. Considerable quantities of copper ore are exported from this town to Wales. The improvements made in Truro of late years have been very considerable; among which may be enumerated a literary society, and county library, a theatre, and a county infirmary. The government of Truro is vested in a mayor, four aldermen, and 20 capital burgesses. The right of returning members is in these 25 persons only.

The markets are on Wednesday and Saturday. The fairs on the Wednesday in Midlent week, the Wednesday in Whitsun week, the 19th November, and 18th December. Number of houses 354—inhabitants 2,358.

CUMBERLAND.

Length 58 miles. Breadth 30. Circumference 225. Square miles 1,497. Square acres 958,080. Hundreds 5. Market Towns 10. Parishes 103. Houses 22,682. Persons 138,300.—Diocese of Chester and Carlisle.—Northern Circuit.—Members to Parliament 6.—Militia Men 320.

BOUNDARIES.—This county has the Irish Sea on the west: the Solway Firth, the Scot's Dyke, and the river Liddal, on the north; Northumberland and Durham on the east; and Westmoreland and Lancashire on the south. The surface of this county is very irregular and broken. The south-west district exhibits a gigantic combination of lofty, rugged, and rocky mountains, promiscuously thrown together in the rudest manner, diversified with many beautiful though narrow valleys, and decorated with fine lakes, rivers, and some extensive woodlands. The general appearance of the county is bleak and naked. The immediate vicinity of the Wadd Mines is full of cataracts and rivers, precipitated from the crags with an alarming noise, and the summit of the mountain, in whose bowels this valuable mineral is produced, is truly terrifying. Cumberland is one of the least populous counties; yet the air, though sharp and bleak, is not unhealthy. The lakes are much resorted to by the curious traveller, and are among the most beautiful scenes in the kingdom. The celebrated rampart called the Picts Wall runs through the county. The buildings are chiefly of stone, except in the market-towns, where the houses are generally of brick, and near Scotland, where they are mostly built of clay or mud. Most of the old farm-houses, cottages, and outhouses, are thatched with straw. The more modern buildings are covered with fine blue slate procured in Borrowdale.

SOIL.—About 470,000 acres are in cultivation, chiefly in grass; and about 460,000 uncultivated, including wood lands, three parts of which are entirely unfit for cultivation. The soils are exceedingly various, but have been

classed under the divisions of fertile clay, or strong rich loam, dry loam, wet loam, and black peat earth. When treating of the soil of this county, it is impossible not to enlarge on the extremely rich and variegated *Mineralogical* substances, which so profusely abound. In the CALCAREOUS GENUS, is *limestone* of various colours, texture and hardness; *marble* of various colours is found at Little Stanton, Dacre, Cross-fell, Banks of the Peterill, and Kirkoswald: beautiful specimens of *spar* in the lead mines of Aldston Moor: *gypsum* of various colours, in many parts of the county: and a great variety of *fluors* in the lead mines of Aldston Moor. In the MAGNESIAN CLASS, *mica*, of many colours, is found in the sandstone rocks: the *steatides* at Hill-top, St. John's, and in Langnor iron-mine, at Borrowdale; *serpentine* on the sea shore, but rarely in ploughed grounds: and *asbestus*, assuming various appearances as it assimilates to other substances, has been discovered in the lead-mine at Northend. Of the SILICEOUS GENUS are quartz crystals, at Alston-moor, little inferior in brilliancy to the Brazilian topaz: *garnets*, small but beautiful, near Keswick: *cornelians* of various tints on the sea shore and other places: and *jaspers* of various hues are found in beds of rivers. Of the ARGILLACEOUS GENUS, trap, whinstone, and toadstone, exist almost every where; *schistus* of numerous colours in immense strata; *porcelain clay*, white, friable, and dusty, at Bar-rock near Nebsteps; and *tripoli* of a greenish colour is met with on the banks of Ulls-water. *Fossil* or *pit coal* exists in various places, but particularly on Talkin and Tindall Fells: *jet* is found in thin layers on the sea shore, and in and near the Irthing: *black lead* or *wadd* mines of unrivalled quality, are situated at the head of Borrowdale.

The principal metallic substances are lead, copper, and iron ores. The *lead-mines* are chiefly in Aldston Moor, the most considerable *copper-mines* near Calbeck, at Hesket, New-market and at Newlands, the copper-ores are commonly combined with sulphur, and generally contain both iron and arsenic. Ochreous *iron-ores* are very frequently found on or near the surface, in most parts of the county, especially in moory soils. At

Crowgarth, in the parish of Egremont, is the most singular mine of iron ore in Great Britain. Among the semi-metals, *blende*, *oxide* of *zinc*, *cobalt*, *antimony*, *oxide* of *manganese*, and *wolfram*, are the produce of this county. The aggregated stones, are exceedingly numerous, and are found graduating into almost every imaginable variety.

AGRICULTURE in this county is not conducted on the improved plan prevalent in the southern districts; even sheep farming, considerable in the mountainous tracts and near large commons, is little understood; round the northern skirts of the western mountains, and about Aldston Moor, the dairy system chiefly prevails. The quality of butter made in these dairy farms, which are small, is excellent; and the average quantity from one cow, in a season, is two firkins and fifty-six pounds. The annual amount of the butter sent to distant markets is from 30 to 40,000*l*. Corn farms, with a small mixture of grass, are very numerous, and are in general very small. There is scarcely a county where landed property is so much divided, and where such vassalage and servility are retained in the customs of the manors. *Fines*, *heriots*, services on *boon days*, getting and carrying the lords' peats, ploughing, making hay, reaping, conveying letters, and various other servile employments, whenever summoned by the lord of the manor, would become laughable, if they did not call to memory the transactions of feudal times; when every baronial lord, who could not write even his name, was a tyrant, and every sturdy and industrious poor man a slave! In this county, no particular rotation of crops is observed, but the general custom is to sow from two to six crops of corn in succession. The meritorious exertions of some public-spirited individuals are gradually dissipating this injudicious practice. Horses, two abreast, are generally used in ploughing—every kind of grain is cut with the sickle, not unfrequently used by the females with dexterity equal to that of the men: women of exquisite symmetry and complexion are often seen assisting in other laborious operations of husbandry. The manures generally used for tillage, are farm-yard dung, lime, sea-weed, mud left by the tide, and muscles; and for grass lands, a compost of lime and earth.

In this county there is an excellent practice which even the Norfolk farmers might adopt with advantage. The practice alluded to is in the destruction of moles in enclosed meadows and pastures; persons are employed to destroy them for a *term of years*, *at a fixed salary*, defrayed out of the parochial rates.

The MANUFACTURES of this county are chiefly the spinning and weaving cotton into calicoes, corduroys, &c., and the printing of cotton. In some market towns are small manufactories of checks and coarse linens. At Egremont, and Whitehaven, several hundred hands are employed in the manufacture of sailcloth. There are three or four paper mills in various parts of the county; a manufactory of coarse earthenware is carried on near Dearham; and near Workington are the Seaton iron-works. Every village is supplied with a weaver or two to make cloth: and many private families knit and spin their own stockings.

The LAKES AND MOUNTAINS are the principal objects of attraction in Cumberland, and generally visited in succession, by lovers of the picturesque. We shall therefore here insert a description of them, as we conceive that a connected view will be more satisfactory than detached and isolated particulars, alphabetically arranged in our account of *Remarkable Places*. The names by which the lakes are distinguished, are, Ulls-water, Thirlmere, Derwent-water, Bassenthwaite-water, Over-water, Loweswater, Crummock-water, Buttermere-water, Ennerdale-water, Wast-water, Burn-moor-tarn, Devock-water, and three smaller pieces, called Tindale-tarn, Talkin-tarn, and Tarn-Wadling.

ULLS-WATER, which of all the lakes possesses the greatest beauty, is partly situated in this county, and partly in Westmoreland. Its shape is somewhat like the letter Z; its whole length is about nine miles; but its greatest width is little more than one; and in its second reach a vast rock projects, so as to reduce it to less than a quarter of a mile.

The rocks of Ulls-water and its vicinity are celebrated for reverberating sounds, and the echoes produced are exceedingly grand and impressive. The sound of a cannon fired on the lake is distinctly reverberated *six* or *seven*

times. It first rolls over the head in one vast peal; then subsiding a few seconds, it rises again in a grand uninterrupted burst, perhaps on the right. Another solemn pause ensues; then the sound rises again on the left. Thus thrown from rock to rock in a sort of aerial perspective, it is caught again perhaps by some nearer promontory, and returning full on the ear, surprises it with as great a peal as the first. But the grandest effect of this kind is produced by a *successive* discharge of cannon, at the interval of a few seconds; it seems as if the *very foundations* of every rock on the lake were giving way, and the whole scene, from some strange convulsion, falling into general ruin. There are echoes as well adapted to all the stillness and tranquillity of the lake, as the others are to its wildness and confusion, and which recommend themselves chiefly to those feelings that depend on the gentler movements of the mind. Instead of cannon, let a few French horns and clarionets be played: the effect will then be wonderfully changed: the sound of a cannon is heard in bursts; it is the music only of thunder, but the *continuation of musical sounds*, forms a continuation of *musical echoes*, which, reverberating around the lake, are exquisitely melodious in their several gradations, and form a thousand symphonies, playing together from every part. In short, *every rock is vocal*, and the whole lake is transformed into a kind of magical scene, in which every promontory seems peopled with aerial beings, answering each other in celestial music.

Ulls-water abounds with fish of various kinds, but particularly with trout, perch, and eels. Char and gwiniard are likewise caught. Wild ducks are also met with in great plenty. On the summit of Dunmallet are the vestiges of an ancient fort, which some writers have denominated Roman, and others have supposed it to be the remains of a monastery of Benedictines.

THIRLMERE is a narrow irregular sheet of water, about three miles in length, skirting the immense base of Helvellyn, and receiving a variety of torrents from the sides of that huge mountain. This lake is situated in the interior of a very sequestered district, bordering on Westmoreland. Its shores are generally naked and rocky, and display a scene of desolation. Near the middle the lake

is so contracted by its craggy boundaries, that a bridge has been thrown over it for the convenience of the neighbouring inhabitants. Further on, water-falls assail the ear on every side, and are seen tumbling from considerable heights, in silvery threads; the north end is terminated by a pyramidal and towering rock.

DERWENT WATER has peculiar charms, both from beauty and wildness. It seems to be nearly of a circular form; and the whole is seen at one glance, expanding within an amphitheatre of mountains, rocky, but not vast, broken into many fantastic shapes, peaked, splintered, impending, and sometimes pyramidal. The precipices seldom overhang the water, but are arranged at some distance; and the shores swell with woody eminences, or sink into green pastoral margins. Masses of wood frequently appear among the cliffs, feathering them to their summits; and a white cottage sometimes peeps from out their skirts, seated on the smooth knoll of a projecting pasture, and looking so exquisitely picturesque, as to seem placed there purposely to adorn it. The lake, in return, faithfully represents the whole picture; and so even and brilliantly pellucid is its surface, that it rather heightens than obscures the colouring. Its mild bosom is spotted by four or five small islands.

Beyond the head of the lake, the pass of Borrowdale opens, guarded by two piles of rock. Among the most striking features of the eastern shore, are the woody cliffs of Lowdore; then nearer to the eye, Wallow-crags of dark brown rock, loosely impending; nearer still, Castle-hill, pyramidal, and richly wooded to its point, the most luxuriant feature in the landscape. Cawsey-pike, one of the most remarkable rocks of the western shore, has its ridge scolloped into points, as if with a row of corbells. The cultivated vale of Newland slopes upwards from the lake, between there and Thornthwaite fells. Northward, beyond Crow park, rises Skiddaw; at its base commences the beautiful level, that spreads to Bassenthwaite-water. Such is the outline of Derwent-water, which has a much greater proportion of beauty than Ulls-water, but neither its dignity nor grandeur. The soft undulations of its shores, the mingled wood and pasture that paint them, the brilliant purity of the water, that reflects every land-

scape on its bank, and frequently with heightened colouring, the fantastic wildness of the rocks, and the magnificence of the amphitheatre they form, are scenes that excite emotions of sweet and tranquil pleasure, softening the mind to tenderness, rather than elevating it to sublimity.

BASSENTHWAITE WATER is nearly three miles north of Derwent Water, having in the east the beautiful and extensive vale of Bassenthwaite, with the mighty Skiddaw rearing its lofty head beyond it; and on the west, a range of humble mountains which fall abruptly to the water's edge, and only admit cultivation to prevail in small patches. The contiguous scenery affords some very fine views; and the prospect from Ouse bridge is exceedingly beautiful. From this point, Skiddaw, with all the mountains round Borrowdale, appear in a magnificent amphitheatrical perspective; and the valleys, both of this and Derwent Water, are seen at one view, which is only terminated by the sublime but dark fells of Borrowdale. Three noble bays spread their pellucid bosoms in different parts of the lake, and greatly add to the beauty of the neighbouring prospects. Bassenthwaite Water is nearly a mile broad at the northern end, but lower down it decreases to little more than a quarter of that breadth; its length is about four miles.

OVER WATER is seated between Binsey and Chaldbeck fells, but possesses no very superior claims to attraction, as the situation is naked, and the country neither sufficiently wild nor sublime. It is about half a mile in length, and somewhat more than a quarter broad.

LOWES WATER is a more beautiful lake, situated near the north-western extremity of the mountains above Millbreak. Its borders are ornamented with a mixture of woodland and cultivated fields. The southern shore is partly bounded by lofty eminences, which in some parts descend precipitately to the water. The northern screen is more humble, and soon softens into an open country. This lake is about a mile long, and one quarter broad, and, contrary to all others, discharges its waters at the southern end.

CRUMMOCK WATER expands near the skirts of the barren Millbreak, and other lofty mountains, whose mighty steeps generally descend to the water's edge,

leaving but a few tracts for cultivation. These border its western banks; but its opposite shores are much indented, and varied with low bays, curious promontories, little coppices, and trees scattered among small farms; the whole terminating in a rich scene of woodland, impending in a beautiful manner from the superior eminences. Three small islands ornament the lake, one of which is barren, the others covered with wood. The ragged and pointed summits of the chain of mountains on each side are truly picturesque. The length of this lake is nearly four miles, its breadth about half a mile. Its waters are very deep and clear, and abound with char.

BUTTERMERE WATER is about one mile south of Crummock Water, from which it is separated by a luxuriant vale, as fine and as level as a bowling-green. Its western shores are hemmed in by a range of rugged mountains, which rise abruptly from the margin of the water with dark and gloomy aspects. The eastern shores rise more gently, are partially wooded, and admit of cultivation at a little distance from the lake; the north end is skirted by the verdant vale of Buttermere: and the southern extremity is bounded by Honister-crag, which abruptly terminates a chain of mountains that extend southward. From this steep, numerous torrents are continually pouring down into the lake. The length of Buttermere Water is rather more than one mile and a half; its breadth about half a mile. A remarkable water-fall abont one mile and a half to the west of Buttermere, called *Scale-force*, has hitherto been little noticed by tourists.

ENNERDALE WATER is spread among the mountains nearest to Whitehaven, and on every side, except the west, guarded with wild and craggy heights that are almost impassable. Its eastern shore is spangled with small farms, which in some degree alleviate the gloom of the situation. The length of this lake is about two miles and a-half; and its breadth, in the widest part, about three quarters of a mile.

WAST WATER expands its crystal stream in the Wast dale, among the western mountains, which on each side the dale rise to a great height, and almost meet at their bases. This lake is of very difficult access, except on the side of Egremont; and but few travellers encounter the

dangers of the Alpine ways that lead to it. The vale from the heights appears a most delightful recess, but seems sunk much below the common level of the earth. Here every thing is rural, and seen in the true style of pastoral beauty and simplicity. The road runs along the north side of the lake, which is about three miles in length, and three-quarters of a mile broad, in the widest part. The Screes, a very high ridge of mountains, runs along the southern shore, and the loose rocks on its sides are in almost constant motion shivering down into the water. On the north, a small tract of cultivated country intervenes between the dales and the mountain, divided into small farms. Towards the north end of this valley the mountains begin to lower, and afterwards diminish by degrees till they terminate in an open country towards Ravenglass and the coasts of the Irish Sea.

BURN-MOOR-TARN is seated among the wildest mountains at the head of Miterdale, to which there is scarcely a sheep-tract to direct the steps of the curious traveller. The waters of this small lake do not cover more than 250 acres.

DEVOCK WATER occupies about 300 acres, and is reported to contain the finest trout in England. Its situation is among the hills, nearly five miles south-east of Ravenglass.

TALKIN-TARN, and TINDLE-TARN, occupy about 40 or 50 acres each; they are seated on the bleak moors, a few miles south-east of Brampton.

TARN WADLING spreads its waters on a naked and barren common, about one mile west of the river Eden, at Armathwaite, above which it rises 600 feet perpendicularly. It covers about 100 acres, and is much frequented by wild fowl. The carp it produces are extremely fine.

The MOUNTAINS are exceedingly numerous, and many of immense elevation and singular structure. They enter into the composition of almost every view; and either by their sublime heights, their romantic forms, the dignified grandeur of their aspects, the immensity of the rocky masses that compose them, or the wild, awful, and imposing majesty of their appearance, are well calculated to give birth to interesting emotions. On entering Cumberland at the south-west corner, *Blackcomb* immediately

presents itself, a very high, black-looking, conical-topt hill; its sides are rather smooth, and cultivation is spreading fields on its large base, where also many beautiful farm-houses appear in pleasant situations. This mountain steps boldly forward, dragging behind it a legion of lower hills, ranged in the utmost disorder. The prospect from the summit is extensive.

Skirting the southern borders of the county, the next mountains that present themselves of any eminence are *Hard-knot* and *Wry-nose*, which are situated near each other at the head of Eskdale, in the centre of a mountainous country. Further to the north is *Scaw-fell*, a secluded hill, of an oblong form, and measuring 938 feet in perpendicular height above the level of Derwent Water. In this neighbourhood are two remarkably craggy precipices, called *Doe Crag* and *Earn Crag*, the fronts of which are polished like marble. The cliffs called *Screes*, which border the south side of *Wast Water*, are about two miles in length, and rise to an immense height. Northward from hence is a vast collection of mountains, many of which are nameless to all but a few shepherds, and never trodden upon but by themselves and their flocks. The most remarkable of these towering eminences are Honister Crag, Robinson-fell, High Style, Red Pike, Hay-cock, Pillar, and Steeple. This enormous range of mountains terminates at Dent, a beautiful green hill just above Egremont. Looking north eastward, *Grassmere* immediately strikes the eye, and in part hides those numerous hills which rise behind it as far as Cockermouth; it is a long-topt mountain, and said to be nearly as high as Skiddaw. *Grisdale Pike*, a high conical hill, is also seen in the same quarter.

Eastward of Grisdale Pike is the majestic SKIDDAW, whose sweeping declivities nearly reach the margin of Bassenthwaite Lake, above the level of which its summit rises nearly 3,500 feet in perpendicular height. To the north and east of Skiddaw, there is a continuation of several hills of less importance, and of uninteresting forms, which are principally covered with heath, and terminate in the open cultivated part of the county. The most remarkable are Caldbeck-fells, Carrock-fells, Bonscale-fells, and Souter-fell. On Bonscale-fell is a spacious sheet

of water, so enclosed by an amphitheatrical ridge of craggy rocks, that the rays of the sun never reach its surface for four months in the winter season.

SOUTER-FELL is nearly 900 yards high, barricadoed on the north and west sides with precipitous rocks, but somewhat more open on the east, and easier of access.

SADDLE-BACK rears its vast head on the east side of Souter-fell. The base of this stupendous mountain is broken into a little world of mountains, green with cultivation. Its north-western skirts unite with the declivities of Skiddaw, but its southern face is furrowed by several hideous chasms, and its summit is in many parts frightful and desolate. The views from the summit are exceedingly extensive; but those immediately under the eye, on the mountain itself, are so tremendous and appalling, that few persons have sufficient resolution to experience the emotions which those awful scenes inspire, and they are therefore but seldom visited. The height of this mountain is 3,324 feet; that of Skiddaw 3,270.

Near the southern declivity of this vast eminence is the vale of Wanthwaite, a narrow cultivated spot, lying in the bosom of tremendous rocks, overlooked by still more awful mountains, that fall in abrupt lines and close up the Vista, except where it is terminated by the vast top of Helvellyn.

WATENLATH is a tract of mountainous country (itself surrounded by mountains still higher,) which, connecting with Borrowdale fells, advances south-west from Saddle-back, and breaks abruptly on the Vale of Keswick. In its bottom is a valley, so contracted that it affords little more than a path, and the little river that, falling into Derwent Water, forms the cataract of Lowdore. For nearly the space of three miles the Vale of Waterlath appears only like a chasm of rifted rocks. The valley terminates in a rocky amphitheatre of considerable grandeur above the lake of Keswick.

Beyond Watenlath, to the west, is the rocky chasm of BORROWDALE, a tremendous pass, which opens from the centre of the amphitheatre that binds the head of Derwent Water. Through this region of desolation, which furnishes a succession of such romantic and picturesque

scenes, that they can hardly be paralleled by any in Britain, the river Derwent pursues its rapid course, leaping from rock to rock, and giving animation to its rude, horrid, and fantastic boundaries. Near the entrance of the gorge is a detached mountain, called Castle Crag, which obtained its name from a fortress that once frowned on its summit, aud guarded this important pass. At its foot is the romantic village of Grange, situated among the woods and meadows which skirt the borders of the Derwent. The views from the top of Castle Crag are extensive and peculiar.

Among the most gigantic of the fells that form the great outline of this astonishing prospect are Eagle Crag, Glamarara, Bull Crag, and Serjeant Crag. The first is a tremendous rock at the head of Borrowdale to the East, on which the eagles frequently make their habitations and their nests.

Nearly opposite to Castle Crag, in one of the recesses of this romantic chasm, is that gigantic mass of rocks, called the *Bowderstone*.

South-eastward of the chasm of Borrowdale, is the august HELVELLYN, with which the three mountains, Crossfell, Grassmere, and Skiddaw, only dispute the point of altitude. Its height is 3,324 feet; and the snow remains longer on its summit than it does on Skiddaw. Its front is rude, and magnificently awful, stretching nearly a league and a half in one vast concave ridge. Huge and innumerable fragments of rocks hang pendent from its sides, and appear ready to fall and overwhelm the curious traveller who dares to ascend its wild and fantastic heights. The prospect from its summit is exceedingly extensive. The mountains on the eastern side of Cumberland are a portion of that immense ridge termed the British Apennines, which, commencing in Derbyshire, extend in a continued chain of different elevations to the river Tweed.

The RIVERS and small streams of Cumberland are very numerous, but as we have described the lakes and mountains so much at large, we are obliged to confine ourselves to a bare enumeration of names. The principal are, the Eden, the Eamont, the Duddon, the Ehen, the Der-

went, the Greata, the Cocker, the Ellen, the Waver, the Wampoot, the Caldew, the Peteril, the Esk, the Liddal, the Line or Leven, the Irthing and the Gelt.

Remarkable Places.

AIKTON CASTLE, near Great Salkeld—considerable remains of a fortified station enclosed by a rampart of pebbles and rough stones, now overgrown with brushwood and oaks.

ALDINGHAM. Here is the famous Druidical monument called *Long Meg and her Daughters*, an extensive circular arrangement of unhewn and rude stones.

ARKLEBY HALL, a small mansion, was erected about the year 1740, upon the site of the ancient manor-house. In one of the walls are three stones, rudely sculptured with figures of animals.

ARMATHWAITE CASTLE is situated in a very deep vale, close to the margin of the river Eden. The front is modern, and of hewn stone: an additional building for offices has been erected. The contiguous scenery is highly beautiful, and many of the prospects are extremely romantic and picturesque. Near the remarkable lake named Tarn Wadling, about one mile and half from Armathwaite, are the remains of a very strong fortress, called Castle Hewin; its origin seems lost in the mist of ages; yet its ruins are considerable, and situated on the summit of a lofty eminence.

BEWCASTLE is situated in the midst of a wild and unfrequented district, above Sollom-Moss, and is supposed to have been a Roman station. Many vestiges of ancient buildings are yet remaining. In the church-yard is a celebrated obelisk, which has for many years engaged the attention of the curious.

BLACK-COMB, near Bootle. From the summit of this mountain may be seen fourteen counties of England and Scotland, the Isle of Man, and several mountains of North Wales. In the country round are various druidical circles, and other remains of antiquity.

BRAMPTON, about two miles from this place, on the face of a rock over-hanging the river Gelt, is a celebrated Roman inscription, which has endured the storms of more than 15 centuries.

BRAYTON HALL, near Aspatria, has been much improved and rendered an elegant and commodious residence: the apartments are enriched with a number of fine pictures. Adjacent to the house is a small deer-park.

CALDER ABBEY. The beautiful ruins of this abbey are situated on the northern banks of the river Calder, in a deeply-secluded vale, through which its waters flow from the bleak mountains of Cald-fell. The situation of the ruins is extremely beautiful, the sides of the vale being clothed with hanging woods, and its area spread into level meads, animated by the babbling current of the river. The chief remains are the square tower of the church, fragments of the monastery, some broken arches, and other vestiges of the cloisters.

CARLETON HALL is a plain modern structure, situated upon a knoll, in a luxuriant and beautiful vale, enclosed with wooded hills, and intersected by the rivers Eamont and Lowther; in the front is an extensive lawn, bounded by gentle eminences, which increase in height as the ground extends to the east and west, and have their acclivities clothed with hanging woods. Through these, walks have been formed in different directions, and lead to a succession of prospects over the adjacent country.

CARLISLE is 301 miles from London; its situation is extremely fine; it stands on a gentle rising ground, in the midst of extensive and fertile meadows terminated by the distant mountains, and watered by the Eden, the Caldew, and the Peteril. The improvements effected since the union with Scotland, are exceedingly numerous. The public buildings are various; yet those which chiefly engage the curiosity of the visitant, are the castle and the cathedral; these edifices, or at least certain parts of them, being of considerable antiquity. Before the dissolution of the monasteries, several religious houses were established in this city, and some few remains of them are yet visible. The three principal streets range nearly in the shape of the Roman Y, and meet at the market-place, where the Town-hall, Moot-hall, and council-chamber, are situated; the latter is ornamented with a cupola. Here the assize courts, and quarter sessions are held, and most of the public business is transacted. The corporation

records are also kept here; and the representatives for the city elected. The Guildhall is rather a mean edifice, but appears ancient. In the quarter near the English gate, is the county-gaol, an old and ruinous structure. The corporation consists of a mayor, 12 aldermen, 24 common-councilmen, and various subordinate officers. The city was first represented in parliament in the 23d of Edward I.; the members are chosen by about 700 free burgesses. The population and building of Carlisle and its suburbs have increased in a very rapid manner during the preceding century; but the augmentation has principally been made within the last forty years.

The market is held on Wednesday and Saturday. The fairs on the 26th August, and about three weeks after. The number of houses, 1,420. Inhabitants, 10,875.

CASTLE CARROCK is a small village, at the foot of the great ridge of mountains which extend northward from Cross-fell; near it are the remains of two ancient fortifications; one in a low meadow surrounded by a foss. Tradition reports, that it was once the site of a castle, with the ruins of which the church was built. In the moat is a small pool of water, of similar qualities to that at Gilsland Spa.

CLEA HALL stands on a well cultivated spot, in the midst of an elevated and dreary moor. The northern prospect is extensive, the lower parts of Cumberland, the Solway Frith, and the borders of Scotland, being all comprehended in the view.

COCKERMOUTH, 301 miles from London. The streets are spacious, but irregularly built; many of the houses are neat, particularly those on the acclivity leading to the castle. The moot-hall, market-house, and shambles, have an ancient and gloomy appearance, and like most of these kind of buildings in the northern towns, prove a considerable obstruction to passengers, being situated in the midst of one of the principal streets. The ruins of the castle occupy the summit of an artificial mount, raised on a precipice above the Derwent, near its confluence with the Cocker. It appears to have been a strong and extensive fortress, of a square form, and guarded with square towers, the compass of the wall measuring almost 600 yards. This castle was the baronial mansion of the

Lords of Allerdale; by the first of whom, Waldeof, it is generally affirmed to have been built within a few years of the time of the conquest. During the contentions in the reign of Charles I., it was garrisoned for the king: but being reduced by the parliament forces, was dismantled.

The market is held on Monday and Saturday. The fairs for servants on the Monday after Martinmas and Whitsunday, and for horned cattle on the first Monday in May, and continue that day fortnight until the 30th of October. Number of houses, 417. Inhabitants, 2,865.

CORBY CASTLE, near Wetherall, is an elegant mansion, boldly situated on an elevated cliff, impending over the river Eden, whose finely wooded and rocky banks are seen in a most picturesque point of view. It is a convenient and elegantly furnished habitation; but the chief features of the place are its celebrated and beautiful grounds.

CROFTON HOUSE, near Orton, is a commodious building, erected in an open and pleasant situation within a small park. The deer park contains about 150 acres; the woodlands, including new plantations, about 100.

CUMREW. Here is a prodigious cairn called Cardunneth, and another about 300 yards from the church, near which there are some considerable ruins.

CUMWHITTON, six miles from Carlisle. In the middle of a desolate waste is an extensive *Druidical* circle called *Grey Yands*.

DACRE CASTLE, near Penrith, supposed to have been the original mansion of the illustrious family of the Dacres, and certainly their place of residence for many generations, is converted into a commodious farm-house. The windows are narrow and grated; the gloom which overspreads the interior is truly expressive of the dark ages of feudal tyranny. In the church-yard are four remarkable monuments, representing bears.

DALEMAIN, near Dacre Castle, is a spacious yet sweetly-secluded mansion; a modern building of pale red stone, situated near the foot of a rocky eminence, and surrounded at some distance with elevated grounds, covered with trees.

DALSTON HALL, 4½ miles from Carlisle, is a vene-

rable mansion, apparently of the time of Richard III. or Henry VII.; but the exact era when it was erected is unknown. In several of the apartments, the vestiges of former grandeur are plainly visible. In a field fronting the house are the traces of an ancient camp: and near it a barrow, planted with firs.

EDMOND CASTLE, near the junction of the rivers Irthing and Gelt. The situation itself is extremely beautiful, but the grounds have been much improved, planted with a variety of trees, walks made through the woods, and otherwise embellished by tasteful and judicious alterations.

GILSLAND SPA, about eight miles from Bewcastle, consists of two large houses, for the accommodation of lodgers, and some smaller dwellings, situated in the middle of a wild romantic valley, called the Vale of Irthing. The spring which attracts the company to this sequestered and desolate spot is near the upper house; it is strongly impregnated with sulphur, but extremely agreeable to the palate; its effects in cutaneous disorders are powerful and effectual. At a small distance, on the moor, is a chalybeate spring; and another, four miles distant, highly charged with alum and vitriol. About one mile west of Gilsland Spa, the famous Roman Wall enters this county from Northumberland.

GOWBARROW PARK, an extensive demesne, belonging to the Duke of Norfolk, is skirted on the south-eastern side, by the noble lake of Ulls-water. It contains nearly 1,800 acres of land, and was formerly ornamented with a great quantity of ancient oaks; this was one of the tracts proclaimed a forest by William Rufus, and it still abounds with numerous herds of fine deer. On a rising ground, at no great distance from the lake, is a castellated edifice, called *Lyulph's Tower*, intended as an occasional residence for the late Duke. Nearly half-a mile from the town, is a celebrated cascade called Airey Force; the stream above the fall is abundantly stocked with fish.

GRAYSTOCK CASTLE, the seat of the Duke of Norfolk, is situated on an eminence, near the extensive park of Graystock; the ancient structure was fortified, and some broken towers, and other remains, are still

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seen in the present mansion. A rivulet, which falls into the river Peteril, flows by the castle-walls with some rapidity, and has been made to contribute to the beauty of the scenery, by being collected into reservoirs, and converted into artificial cascades. The plantations are extensive; and near the castle are several ornamental buildings. The park contains nearly 1,000 head of deer.

The interior of the castle is elegantly fitted up, and the apartments rendered as convenient as the disposition of the buildings will admit. The rooms on the first floor are decorated with some fine paintings.

HALE-HALL, near Egremont, stands in a rather high and exposed situation, near the extensive moorlands, which skirt the assemblage of mountains that involve the Cumberland lakes. It is, however, a commodious mansion, and well situated for a sporting seat.

HARD-KNOT. Near this place are the remains of an ancient fortification, called Hard-Knot Castle, near Copeland Forest.

HIGH-HEAD CASTLE, in ruins—the shattered walls of a tower, the curtain walk, a gateway tower, and a small turret are the only remains.

HUTTON-HALL, near Lazonby, stands on a fine eminence, in a pleasant park, near a branch of the river Peteril, and was much improved during the last century. On Hutton-common are the vestiges of a square fortification, called Collinson Castle.

ISEL-HALL, near Keswick, stands in a low, but pleasant vale, near the banks of the river Derwent. The surrounding eminences are clothed with wood, and many of the views along the borders of the river possess considerable beauty.

KESWICK, near Crosthwaite; one mile and half from this place, on the summit of an eminence, called Castle Rigg, is a remarkable Druidical arrangement of 50 rude stones of granite.

KIRKLINGTON HALL, four miles from Netherby, is a pleasant seat built with the materials of an ancient mansion, or castle, of the Dacres, which stood at a few hundred yards distance, and was formerly called Clough Hall.

The view from Kirklington Hall commands a fine vale, extending to the Solway Firth.

KIRKOSWALD, 291 miles from London. Near this town are the ruins of a castle, once described as "the fairest fabric that ever eye looked upon." Its grandeur is fled, and a small tower, and some dreary vaults, are the only remains of magnificence.

LAKES, vide page 84.

LLANERCOST PRIORY, an Augustine monastery, was founded in the year 1169, but few vestiges of the monastic buildings remain, though they were originally sufficiently extensive to become the residence of Edward I., during one of his Scotch expeditions. Part of the structure is now used as a farm-house, and some portion of the cemetery has been converted into gardens. The gate of the burial-ground is a fine semicircular arch; part of the structure has been fitted up as a parochial church, but the other parts of the building are open, and exposed to the weather. Round the whole upper part of the edifice runs a colonnade, with pointed arches, supported on single pillars, which have a light and airy appearance; most of the windows are high and narrow.

MARYPORT is a sea port, at the mouth of the Elne; near this place are the remains of a considerable Roman station, called Ellenborough; the numerous vestiges of antiquity, and variety of inscriptions, discovered at this station exceed those found at any other in Britain.

MILLUM CASTLE, has been long neglected, and is now in ruins; the more perfect part is tenanted by a farmer, who rents the surrounding lands. It stands about half a mile from the banks of the river Duddon, and was formerly connected with a spacious park, well stocked with deer and timber.

MOUNTAINS, vide page 89.

MUNCASTER HOUSE, near Ravenglass, the principal residence of Lord Muncaster. About two miles from Muncaster House, on the opposite side of the Esk, are ruins of considerable magnitude, called the *City* of *Barnscar*, of which no historical documents appear to exist.

NAWORTH CASTLE, 10 miles from Carlisle, is the property of the Earl of Carlisle, and is built on a

pleasant eminence, at the head of the Vale of Llanercost. It chiefly consists of two large square towers, united by other buildings and enclosing a quadrangular court. The whole house, is a true specimen of ancient inconvenience and magnificence, the rooms numerous, accessible by sixteen staircases, with frequent sudden ascents and descents, besides a long narrow gallery. The idea of a comfortable dwelling has, indeed, been entirely excluded: near the library is an ancient oratory, the walls and ceiling are richly ornamented with coats of arms, and carvings in wood, painted and gilt; various pieces of sculpture in white marble are also preserved here.

The chapel in the lower part of the castle is fitted up in a very antique style. The hall is a noble old apartment, 78 feet in length, and proportionably high and wide.

This structure, and its whole interior arrangement, operates very forcibly in recalling ideas of feudal manners; the old windows are narrow and grated, the doors almost entirely cased with iron, moving on ponderous hinges, and guarded with massive bolts; the chambers dark, hung with gloomy furniture, and the approaches intricate, and without regularity.

NETHERBY, four miles from Wetherby, is much celebrated in the topographical annals of this county, from the vast improvements that were made here, during the latter part of the last century; nor is it less interesting to the antiquary, from the assemblage of Roman remains that are here preserved, from its having itself been a Roman station, and from its contiguity to Æsica, which it is imagined stood not far distant. The mansion at Netherby stands on an eminence near the river Esk, commanding an extensive view. The house is elegantly fitted up, and contains a valuable collection of ancient and modern medals. The library is furnished with a select collection of classic, and other valuable authors, of the best editions. The gardens and pleasure-grounds are disposed with much taste and judgment. The antiquities and Roman remains preserved at Netherby are exceedingly numerous, and offer a wide field for the exercise of antiquarian sagacity.

OLD CARLISLE, about one mile from Wigton.—Here are the ruins of a considerable Roman station; the vestiges of the ancient buildings are very conspicuous, the foundations of numerous ruined edifices being scattered over many acres; the station itself occupied an elevated site, commanding extensive views. Its form is an oblong square; the military way on which it stands is very broad and distinct, and leads immediately to Carlisle and the wall. Many vestiges of antiquity have been found in this station.

PENRITH, 282 miles from London, is near the river Peteril. In the church-yard is a singular monument of antiquity, called the Giant's Grave, also a single stone, five feet eight inches high, called the Giant's Thumb; near the town is a square stone building, called the Beacon and also the ruins of a castle.

PONSONBY HALL, near Gosforth, on the banks of the Calder, is seated on a rising ground, and commands some very extensive and beautiful prospects. The apartments are elegantly fitted up, and contain some excellent portraits, by ancient and modern masters. Among other remnants of antiquity, is a curious carved bedstead, supposed to have been made in 1345; from the excellence of the workmanship, it is supposed to be one of the greatest curiosities of the kind in England. The soil seems well adapted to the growth of wood; and many plantations of forest trees have been made, which thrive exceedingly, and add greatly to the beauty of the surrounding country. On Ponsonby-fell are the vestiges of an ancient encampment.

ROCKCLIFF, four miles from Carlisle, possesses a remarkable mineral spring, whose scum on paper has a most beautiful gold colour: when the scum is dry and rubbed off, the paper appears covered with gold dust.

ROSE CASTLE, near Inglewood Forest, is the beautiful seat of the Bishop of Carlisle, and stands on a gentle rise, overlooked by many superior eminences. Its situation is extremely pleasant; the river Calder winds round in a semicircular form, at about half a mile distant; and the grounds between the castle and the stream consist of beautiful meadows. The castle retains little of

the castellated form, except the gateway, and two towers: above the gate is sculptured a large rose. Originally it seems to have possessed considerable magnificence; in the 28th of the reign of Edward I. it became the residence of that monarch, while employed in his expedition against Scotland.

ROSLEY HILL, near Clea Hall, is celebrated for a large fair, held every fortnight, between Whitsuntide and Martinmas, and many thousands of black cattle and horses are annually sold here.

SCALEBY CASTLE, near Kirklington, is in ruins, and is another of the fortified houses, that are so numerous in this county. It is in a flat situation; and though its site is so ill-adapted to any modes of defence, it seems to have been a place of more than ordinary strength; at present, one of the moats only remains; the other is filled, but may still be traced. The castle is more complete than such buildings generally are: it preserved its perfect form till the civil wars of the sixteenth century, when, in too much confidence of its strength, its gates were shut against Cromwell, who made it a monument of his vengeance. The walls of this castle are uncommonly magnificent; they are of great height and thickness, and defended by a large bastion; the greatest of them is chambered within, and wrought into several recesses. This venerable pile has now undergone a second ruin, the old oaks and elms, the ancient natives of the scene, are felled; weeds and spiry grass have taken possession of the courts, and obliterated the very plan of a garden, while the house itself is a scene of desolation. A few pictures, heir looms of the wall, are the only appendages of the dissolving pile which have triumphed over the injuries of time.

SKIRWITH ABBEY, is a modern mansion, a few miles from Cross-fell. The grounds are disposed with much taste; the interior of the house is neat and convenient. A curious genealogical painting is preserved here, which traces the descent of the Warwick family, from the famous Guy, Earl of Warwick, in the time of Athelstan, to the reign of Henry III.

WALTON HOUSE, near Stapleton, is a very hand-

some mansion, conspicuously situated, and commanding an extensive prospect over the fertile vale of the Irthing. The grounds are extremely pleasant; and the distant views, bounded by the long range of mountains that divides this county from Durham and Northumberland, are exceedingly beautiful, and interesting from their diversity.

WARNEL HALL, near Ireby, is a venerable mansion belonging to the Earl of Lonsdale; the situation is commanding, on an acclivity of Warnel-fell.

WARWICK HALL, near Wetherall, is a low and retired mansion, situated in a finely-cultivated vale on the banks of the river Eden. The adjacent lands have been greatly improved, a common has been enclosed, and is in a progressive state of amelioration by tillage, drainage, and plantations.

WATER MILLOCK, a beautifully situated residence near Ullswater; the surrounding prospects include as much variety as can be found in almost any situation in the county.

WETHERAL PRIORY, in ruins, stands on an eminence opposite to Corby. The only part of the building now remaining is the gateway, ornamented with a fine elliptic arch, and, plain and trifling as it is, forms a pleasing feature in the very beautiful picture which opens at this spot.

WHITEHAVEN, is 290 miles from London. The effects of trade, industry and enterprise have scarcely ever been so strikingly exemplified, as in the rise, progress, and increasing importance of this rich and flourishing town. Its rapid advancement to prosperity will be easily conceived, when it is stated, that in the year 1566, it consisted of six fishermen's cabins, and a small bark. The honour of raising this town to its present high importance, must be given to the *Lowther* family. The haven is protected by several piers or moles of stone-work; three of them project in parallel lines from the land; and a fourth, bending in the form of a crescent, has a watch-house and battery, and at its extremity a light-house. At low water the port is dry, and the shipping within the moles lie as in dry docks. The situation of Whitehaven is remarkable; it occupies

the northern extremity of a narrow vale, which extends to the village of St. Bees, about five miles distant. The creek on which Whitehaven is built is so deeply seated, that the adjacent lands overlook it on every side. The approach from the north is singular, as the heights are so much above the town, that only the slated roofs of the houses can be seen. From the south, the prospect is more open; the eye commands the whole town and haven. The town is one of the most handsome in all the northern counties; the streets being regular and spacious, and crossing each other at right angles. Many of the buildings are very neat, and the tradesmen's shops exhibit a degree of elegance seldom seen in the north. Whitehaven contains three chapels, respectively dedicated to St. Nicholas, St. James, and the Holy Trinity, plain and convenient structures, but in their outward appearance have few pretensions to beauty.

There is a market on Tuesday, and a fair on the 12th August. Number of houses 1,776. Inhabitants 8,742.

WORKINGTON HALL, on a fine eminence near the east end of the town, on the banks of the Derwent, displays marks of considerable antiquity. In this man sion the Queen of Scots was hospitally entertained, on her landing at Workington, by Sir Henry Curwen, till required by Elizabeth to resign his royal guest: the apartment in which she slept is still called the Queen s chamber.



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PEAKS HOLE.

DERBYSHIRE.

Length 59 miles. Breadth 34. Circumference 176. Square miles 1,077. Square acres 687,280. Hundreds 6. Market towns, 11. Parishes 135. Houses 37,076. Persons 191,700.—Diocese of Litchfield and Coventry.—Midland Circuit.—Members of Parliament 4.—Militia men 560.

BOUNDARIES.—This county is situated nearly in the middle of the island at an equal distance from the east and west seas. On the north lie Yorkshire and part of Cheshire; on the west Cheshire and Staffordshire; on the south Leicestershire, and on the east Nottinghamshire. The figure of Derbyshire is extremely irregular, its sides sometimes swelling into projections, and sometimes diminishing into curves.

The general appearance of Derbyshire is very dissimilar, its southern and northern parts exhibiting a striking contrast, the former is neither particularly remarkable for its hills nor valleys, but the latter is eminently distinguished by a long and continued succession of both. The upper and middle parts of the county are generally denominated the *High Peak*, and the Wapentake or *Low Peak*; the southern part has not received any particular appellation. The mountainous tract of country which commences in the Low Peak extends in one great chain, varying in breadth, to the southern extremity of Scotland. The High Peak is a region of bleak barren heights, and long extended moors, interspersed with deep valleys, and the scenery is in many parts romantic and sublime; but, on the whole, inferior in picturesque effect to that of other mountainous countries. Beauty, indeed, is only resident in the valleys. The southern part of Derbyshire is in general pleasant and well cultivated, but presents no particular variety of scenery. The mountainous part of this county is distinguished from the rest by the great quantity of rain which falls in it. The high Peak is peculiarly liable to very violent storms, in which the rain descends in torrents, so as frequently to occasion great ravages. It is also subject to very high winds.

These causes, together with the elevation of the county, render it cold, so that vegetation is backward, and unkindly. The atmosphere is, however, pure and healthful, and the higher situations are generally free from epidemic diseases, though agues and fevers sometimes prevail in the valleys. The mineral and medicinal waters of Derbyshire are, as might be expected in a county abounding with fossils, remarkably numerous. The most celebrated warm springs are those at Matlock and Buxton, they occur likewise at Stony Middleton: those of Matlock and Buxton have obtained much celebrity for their medicinal properties, and are annually visited by a considerable influx of company who resort to them as well for pleasure as for health. The most in repute of the sulphureous waters of Derbyshire, rises in the park of Lord Scarsdale, at Kedleston, and is principally valued for its anti-scorbutic qualities. When taken inwardly, it acts as a diuretic, and has given relief to persons afflicted with the gravel. The chalybeate waters are numerous; but the most celebrated spring of this nature is at Quarndon, about three miles from Derby. About midway between Crick and Belpar, is a vitriolic spring, the only one that has yet been found in this county.

Soil. The most common soil of Derbyshire is a reddish clay, or marl. Its colouring principle, is iron; but its quality is very various in different situations, in some it contains much calcareous earth, in others, it does not effervesce with acids. In the valleys, near the banks of the larger rivers, the soil is very different from that of the adjacent parts, and has been evidently altered by the depositions from inundations. Peat bogs exist in the north parts of the county, even on the highest mountains, and in some of them trees have been found nearly perfect. The various kinds of strata that compose the interior of this part of the county are argillaceous grit, coarse silicious grit, schistus, limestone and toadstone.

Agriculture. The southern part of Derbyshire is appropriated both to pasture and tillage nearly in equal proportions. In the neighbourhood of Derby, most kinds of grain are cultivated, and the produce is in general abundant. The Derbyshire cheese is mostly of a good quality, yet the method of making it varies considerably;

about 2,000 tons are supposed to be sent annually to London, or exported from the sea ports on the east coast. A good dairy farm produces nearly 300 weight of cheese from each cow within the year.—Barley is much cultivated in many parts of the county, but particularly in the neighbouring town of Burton, whose famous ale has acquired such extensive celebrity. On the eastern side of the county the land is chiefly under tillage, but the midland tracts have a mixture of pasture and arable, according to situation. In the High Peak the grounds are chiefly appropriated to the grazing and breeding of cattle; very little corn, besides black oats, being grown.

On the more elevated parts, sheep of the smaller horned kind are fed; the mutton is excellent. The cultivation of artificial grasses has hardly been attended to; but an uncommon species of culture is here practised as a field crop, viz., camomile; about 200 acres are devoted to its growth. The enclosures of Derbyshire are very numerous, and are annually extending. The southern part, and the Wapentake, are almost entirely in this state, but the grounds in the High Peak are chiefly open, the farms are many of them of a medium extent; but of many others, the rental scarcely exceeds 100*l.* a year, and are occupied by persons engaged in the mines, or other branches of trade or commerce. Leases are not frequent, especially on the larger estates; when granted, they are generally for the term of twenty-one years, but are too often accompanied by injudicious restrictions. The horses of Derbyshire are of very different breeds in the southern and northern parts; in the former they are of the strong and heavy kind; but in the latter, light and slender. The neat cattle are principally of the horned kind, and rather large and handsome; the cows have the property of becoming fat in a short time; their yield of milk is but moderate. The sheep on the Leicestershire border resemble those of that county both in size and weight; but on proceeding northward, the breeds are smaller.

The MANUFACTURES which are carried on in Derbyshire are various and extensive; the manufacture of stockings, iron, woollen cloth, cotton, silk, and ornaments of Derbyshire spar; the latter of which may be considered

as peculiar to this county. Besides the sources of labour derived from these branches of commerce, the mines of lead, iron, calamine and coal, afford employment to many inhabitants of this county. The lead mines constitute a considerable part of the natural riches of Derbyshire, and some of them have probably been worked through a long succession of ages; their produce was formerly of greater value than at present, as the veins become poorer the deeper the mines are excavated.

Rivers.—The principal rivers of this county are the Trent, the Derwent, the Dove, the Wye, the Errewash, and the Rother. The *Trent* enters Derbyshire, near Catton, and taking a more easterly direction near Newton Solney, flows by Twyford and Swarkston, and finally quits Derbyshire, near Barton. The *Derwent* derives its origin in the mountainous district of the High Peak, and is soon increased by various torrents which flow from the dreary waste that encloses its spring. These unite near Hathersage in one stream, which quickly emerges from its native wilds, and passing through Chatsworth Park, has its current soon afterwards enlarged by the waters of the Wye. The pleasant vale of Derby is next animated by these united rivers, till, by a sudden turn, their channel is engulphed between those lofty rocks, which in their winding recesses inclose the romantic scenery of Matlock Dale. Emerging through a high portal of rocks at Cromford, the stream enters the cultivated vale which exteuds toDerby, and passes quickly to the wide plain enlivened by the Trent, into which it flows near Wilne. The *Dove* rises near Buxton, and presents us with a miniature of the romantic streams of North and South Wales; it reaches the Vale of Uttoxeter, flows beneath the bold hill which displays the ruins of Tutbury Castle, and hastens to unite with the Trent in the neighbourhood of Burton. The *Wye* descends from the bleak heights in the vicinity of Buxton, and receiving in its romantic course the waters of several tributary rills, flows near Bakewell, near which it falls into the Derwent. The *Errewash*, rising near Alfreton, falls into the Trent a few miles below the junction of the latter with the Derwent. The *Rother* has its origin near Chesterfield, which it passes, and enters Yorkshire between Kilmarsh and Beighton.

Remarkable Places.

ASHBOURN HALL, 10 miles from Derby, was from remote antiquity the residence of the Cokaines, one of the most eminent Derbyshire families. The mansion is not externally possessed of any architectural beauties, but every part of the interior is disposed with taste and elegance. Many of the pictures are valuable; the library is neat, and the books are a choice collection of classical and polite literature. The situation is low; but the park and gardens have been laid out in a style of beauty and gracefulness which compensates for the want of more picturesque scenery.

ASHFORD, a chapelry to Bakewell, is situated on the banks of the Wye. Here Edward Plantagenet, of Woodstock, Earl of Kent; and after him the Hollands, Earls of Kent; and more recently the Nevilles, Earls of Westmoreland, had a residence, of which the only vestige that remains is the moat. The marble works in this village, where the black and grey marble found in the vicinity is sawn and polished, were the first of the kind ever established in Great Britain.

BAKEWELL, 11 miles from Chesterfield, is a market town on the river Wye. The church is elegant, and has a lofty spire. This place is much resorted to by anglers, as there is plenty of trout, grayling, &c., in the Wye. Coals are plentiful; and there are several quarries of stone, as well as lead and zinc mines, in the neighbourhood. Here is also a large cotton manufactory.

The market is on Monday, and well supplied with all kinds of provisions. The fairs are on Easter Monday, Whit Monday, Monday after October 10, and Monday after November 22. Number of houses 280—inhabitants 1,412.

BEAUCHIEF ABBEY, situated in a beautiful little vale near Sheffield, was founded for regular canons of the Premonstratensian order. Only a small part of the chapel is remaining.

BERESFORD HALL, an ancient but extremely pleasant mansion; the grounds are not extensive, but possess great variety, in some parts gradually sloping to the water's edge; and in others skirting the wild precipices

that hang over the river. They are now entirely neglected.

BRETBY PARK, near Repton, the residence of the Earl of Chesterfield, though not extensive, presents a variety of beautiful scenery. Here stood a magnificent old mansion, which was furnished with rich tapestry and fine paintings, and was surrounded with gardens, disposed after the plan at Versailles, in the old grand style, with terraces, statues, and fountains.

BUXTON, 11 miles from Macclesfield, is in a pleasant valley surrounded with hills. This place is one of the wonders of the peak, having nine wells which rise near the source of the Wye. The hot-baths are at a house called the Hall. There are two or three good inns on the hill, but the company who come for the sake of their health chiefly frequent the Hall. The waters are hot and sulphurous, yet not fetid, but palatable and create an appetite, and by bathing are of good effect in scorbutic, rheumatic, and nervous disorders. The Crescent is the principal building in the town. It is a superb edifice, erected by the late Duke of Devonshire, who also constructed at a short distance from it, an immense range of stables, in the form of a circus, which is considered the most perfect establishment of the kind in the kingdom. Buxton has several circulating libraries, and a theatre. It is supposed, during the season, to contain 500 additional inhabitants, including their attendants, &c. One mile from this place is the second wonder of the peak, called *Poole's Hole*. On the road to Castleton is the third wonder, or *Mam Tor*. Buxton contains 170 houses, and 760 inhabitants.

CASTLETON, five miles from Chapel-le-Firth. It takes its name from an old castle, situated on a steep rock, to which there is but one ascent, and that so winding that it is two miles to the top. On the steep side of another mountain is a large opening, in the form of a gothic arch, called the *Devil's A—e in the Peak*. It is chequered with a variety of coloured stones, from which there is continually dropping a sparry water that petrifies. Castleton contains 198 houses, and 843 inhabitants.

CHATSWORTH HOUSE, the celebrated seat of the Duke of Devonshire, is three miles from Bakewell. The

situation is peculiar and striking, standing on a gentle declivity near the bottom of a hill, finely covered with wood, in a narrow and deep valley, bounded by bleak and elevated tracts of land, and divided into two parts by the river Derwent. The house is built in the Ionic order, with a flat roof, surrounded by a neat balustrade. The fronts which form the quadrangle are decorated with rich sculptures, representing military trophies. The interior, though splendidly ornamented with painted walls and ceilings, presents very few of those captivating productions of the pencil which embellish the apartments of numerous mansions in this county. It possesses, however, attractions of another kind, the beautifully carved ornaments by Gibbons. Mary, queen of Scots, here passed thirteen years of her long captivity, and from this place wrote her second letter to Pope Pius. The circumference of the park is nine miles, and is beautifully diversified with hill and dale, and plantations ranging in fine sweeping masses over the inequalities of the ground. The prospects are exceedingly fine, and one view from the south possesses extraordinary grandeur.

CHESTERFIELD, 12 miles from Mansfield, is a market town, standing on a hill between two rivers, and is the most considerable trading town in the county. It is governed by a mayor, six aldermen, six brethren, and 12 burgesses. Here is a silk and cotton-mill, and a manufactory for stockings and carpets; and several potteries have been established in its vicinity. The church is a handsome structure in the form of a cross. In the market-place is a neat town-hall, on the ground-floor of which is the debtors' gaol, and on the second floor the Sessions House. There are 895 houses and 4,267 inhabitants.

CODNOR, in the parish of Heanor. Here are the remains of a castle, which indicate its having been a place of considerable extent. In the walls are some singular recesses, and on the east side was a deep ditch.

DARLEY is a little village, pleasantly situated on the banks of the Derwent, in the beautiful dale which extends to Matlock. In the church-yard is a remarkable yew-tree, measuring 33 feet in girth, and, though robbed of many of its branches, it still exhibits a singular specimen of luxuriant vegetation.

DERBY, 126½ miles from London, stands in a level fertile district, on the river Derwent. It comprises five parishes, each of which has a church. The town-house is a handsome edifice of stone; and the houses are well built of brick, and covered with flat tiles. The market-place is 300 feet square, in the centre of which is a spacious assembly-room. In this town are some extensive silk-mills upon a very ingenious plan; also a very extensive manufacture of porcelain. Many persons are here employed in turning vases, urns, and various chimney ornaments, &c., of marble spar and petrifactions, which abound in this vicinity. Derby is governed by a mayor, high steward, nine aldermen, a recorder, 14 brothers, 14 burgesses, town-clerk, &c. This town sends two members to parliament, elected by the corporation, freemen, and sworn burgesses; the mayor is the returning officer. In 1745, the Pretender's army entered the town, but returned after a very short stay.

The market is on Friday. The fairs on the 25th of February, Easter week, May-day, Whit Monday, July 25, Midsummer and St. James's days, and Michaelmas day. Number of houses 2,144, and 10,832 inhabitants.

DRAKELOW, near Burton, is in a low, but pleasant situation, among the luxuriant meadows, bordering the Trent, opposite Staffordshire; the mansion is a large irregular pile of brick building, whitened, but not affording any thing particularly remarkable.

ELVASTON, near the fall of the Derwent into the Trent, the seat of Earl Harrington, has long been the residence of that family, though neither the situation nor the house have any particular beauty. The grounds are disposed in the ancient manner, but some of the apartments in the mansion have been fitted up in the modern style. Several family portraits, and other paintings of value are preserved here.

FOREMARK, near Swarston, the seat of Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., is pleasantly situated on the southern bank of the Trent. The mansion stands upon the site of a very ancient house; but neither so elegant nor commodious as the present. This is a handsome stone building, each front has a handsome double flight of steps. The offices are connected with the east end of the mansion by a

covered walk, leading through an enclosed court. The internal as well as the external part of this building, is very neatly finished, and reflects considerable credit on the abilities of the architect; all the floors and doors are of the best oak, nicely fitted; the rooms contain some good family portraits, but none of particular celebrity. On a rising ground, near the west end of the house, which is ornamented with a small lawn, shaded by a grove of young oaks, stands the village church, a plain humble fabric.

HARDWICK HALL, 10 miles from Derby, a celebrated residence of the Duke of Devonshire, is situated on a ridge of elevated ground, near the eastern borders of the county; it stands in a fine park, well furnished with ancient and wide-spreading oaks, from amidst which the towers of the edifice emerge with great majesty, their summits appearing covered with the shivered fragments of battlements. Some considerable portion of the captivity of the queen of Scots was passed in this mansion, and several of the apartments derive great interest from the furniture, and other articles preserved in remembrance of that injured princess. Between two and three hundred yards from the present residence, are the dilapidated remains of a more ancient one, a few apartments, though approached with difficulty through the fragments of others, are yet entire.

HOPTON, in the parish of Wirksworth. The ancient manor house has been pulled down, and its site occupied by a neat modern building. The grounds have also been much improved, and a new road distinguished by the appellation of Via Gellia, has been carried towards Matlock, through a romantic valley, which affords several very beautiful views.

KEDLESTON HOUSE, near Derby, the celebrated seat of Lord Scarsdale, is situated about three miles from Derby. On the road which passes to the right of this delightful residence, is a handsome inn, for the accommodation of those strangers whom curiosity may induce to view this mansion; nearly opposite is the entrance to the park, which is about five miles in circumference, and displays some flourishing plantations, together with a grove of venerable oaks, some of them of enormous mag-

nitude. The house, a grand and elegant building, is 360 feet in extent, consisting of a centre, and two pavilions connected with the main building, by corridors of the Doric order. Almost every room of this splendid mansion is decorated with paintings. The saloon is one of the most beautiful apartments of its kind in Europe; its decorations are interesting, from the classical taste displayed in designing them, and the elegance with which they are executed. The idea of the south front of this superb mansion, was formed from the Arch of Constantine at Rome; the entablature is supported by four Corinthian pillars, and the portico is ornamented by medallions, vases, and statues. This seat presents a beautiful specimen of what may be effected by the powers of art, when operating under the guidance of judgment and good taste. Every thing is rich and elegant; yet in no instance has convenience been sacrificed to a vain display of superfluous ornament. Here grandeur rests on propriety, its true basis. The skill and ingenuity of the architect, Adams, was, perhaps, never better displayed than by this mansion. The park lodge was designed from the arch of Octavia.

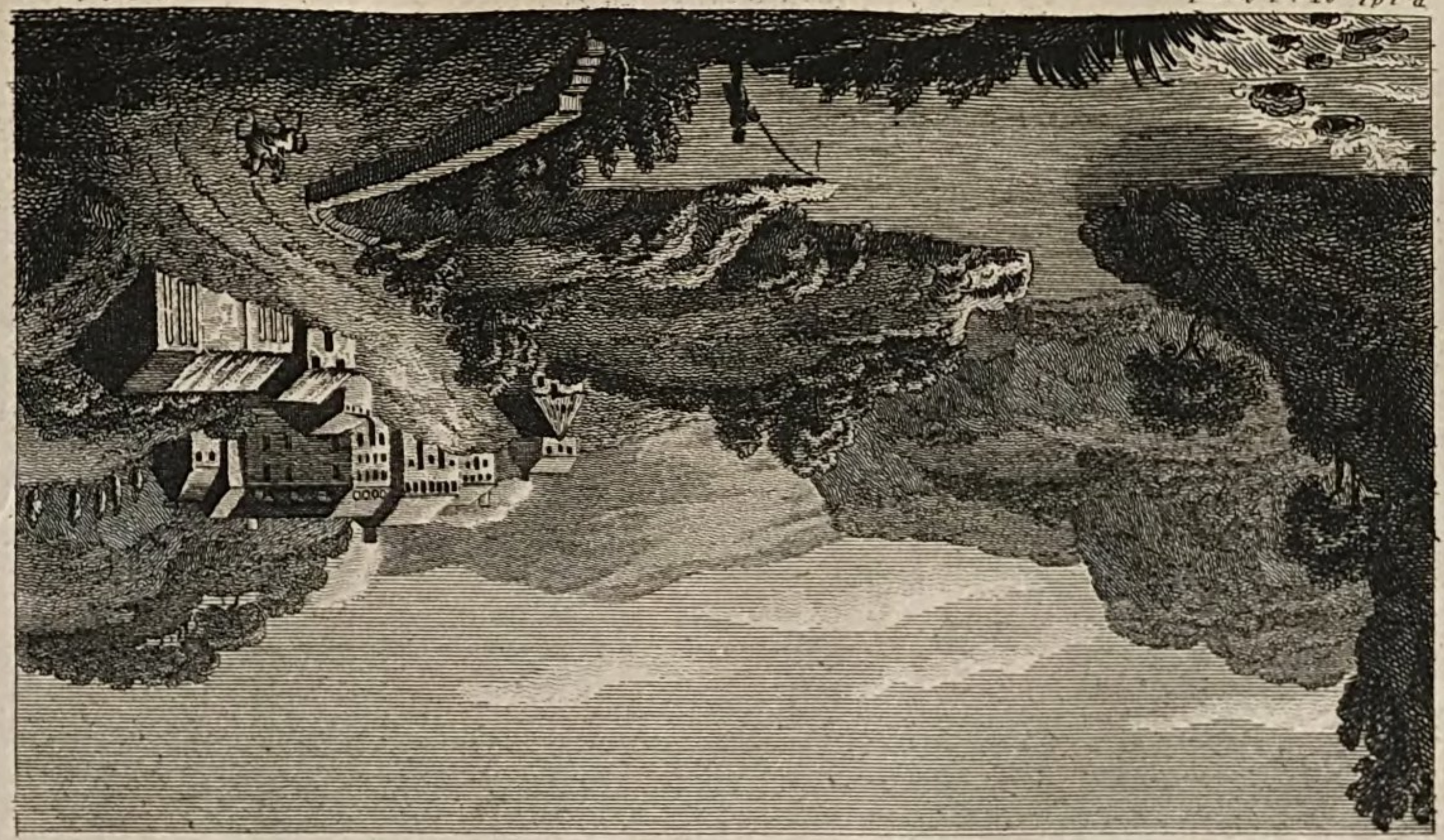
LOCKO PARK consists of agreeable slopes, and pleasant inequalities of ground, enlivened by a good artificial lake. The style of planting of the last century is, however, too apparent; the rows of trees in some places forming right-angled triangles, and the clumps appearing tasteless and formal.

LONGFORD HALL is a spacious fabric, with wings apparently more modern than the body of the house. The grounds are pleasant, and the surrounding country furnishes a variety of agreeable prospects.

MACKWORTH, about three miles from Radbourn, was formerly a castle, only a small part of which is remaining; the time it was built is uncertain, as well as who were its original owners, but its site is now the property of Lord Scarsdale.

MATLOCK, 12 miles from Buxton. The village stands one mile and a half from the Matlock Bath, and has a neat stone bridge over the river; the church is small but neat. The village, constituting what is called the Bath, consists principally of three inns, and two commo-

MATLOCK.



Pub.d by Slagh Strand. *Neale & Son sc.*

dious-lodging houses, offering altogether accommodation for 500 visiters. The buildings are elegantly constructed of stone; and the season commences in April, and ends in October. The waters in quality much resemble those of Bristol, but are not so warm; they are recommended in glandular affections, rheumatism, and in the early stages of consumption; the usual time of drinking the waters is before breakfast, and before dinner. The walks and picturesque scenery on the banks of the Derwent, are beyond description, being beautifully diversified with rugged rocks at intervals, contrasted by the finest verdure. The spars of Derbyshire here form a considerable traffic, which being turned into vases and chimney ornaments, bear a variegated polish equal to the finest porphyry. Although this town has no market, provisions of all kinds are plentiful. Number of houses 475, inhabitants 2,354.

MELANDRA CASTLE, near Charlesworth, consists of vestiges of an ancient station, apparently Roman from its appearance, and an inscription found there: it was situated, like many Roman stations, on moderately elevated ground, within the confluence of two rivers, and was well supplied with good water; very fortunately the plough has not defaced it, so that the form cannot be mistaken. The extent of this station, is about 122 yards by 112, the four gates, or openings into it, are very conspicuous.

MELBOURN, near Kegworth, is a considerable village of some antiquity, where the vestiges of an ancient castle may still be seen, but by whom, or at what period, it was built, is unknown; yet that it existed in the time of Edward III. is certain. In the year 1460 it was dismantled by order of Margaret, queen to Henry VI.; Lord Melbourn has an agreeable seat near this village, but rather in a confined situation.

MONEYASH, a chapelry to Bakewell: near this place in a narrow dale, which presents some pleasant scenery, are the quarries where much of the Derbyshire marble is obtained; the rocks from which it is blasted seem almost wholly composed of entrochi.

OSMASTON, near Derby. This mansion was erected in the year 1696, partly of brick, and partly stone, but

the brick-work has since been stuccoed. It has two fronts; the house is furnished with a well-chosen library, and is decorated with a variety of paintings.

OVERTON HALL, in the neighbourhood of Ashover, is a small but pleasant seat, belonging to Sir Joseph Banks, Bart., the intelligent President of the Royal Society, whose continued exertions in promoting the best interests of science and philosophy have rendered his name deservedly illustrious.

PEAK CAVERN, or HOLE, near Castleton, is extremely magnificent. Its situation is in a dark and gloomy recess, formed by a chasm in the rocks, which range perpendicularly on each side to a great height; having on the left a rivulet which issues from the Cavern, and pursues its foaming way over craggy and broken masses of lime-stone: the entire length of this wonderful excavation is 750 yards; and its depth from the surface of the mountain, above 207; it is wholly formed in the lime-stone strata, which are full of marine exuviæ; and occasionally display an intermixture of chart, from different parts of the cavern; some communications open with other fissures; but none of these equal it in either extent or grandeur.

RADBOURN, a small hamlet, about four miles from Derby, has been the seat of several wealthy and respectable families; an ancient mansion of the Pole family stood near the church, and is now in ruins. The situation of the present house is elevated and pleasant, and commands some fine prospects over the adjacent country.

SNITTERTON HALL, is a curious old mansion, standing near the summit of a hill, west of the river Derwent; the front has two projecting wings, with pointed gables, embattled sides and square bayed windows; the entrance, instead of being in the centre, as customary, is on one side; the whole structure is of stone, enclosed within high walls.

STANTON. On Stanton Moor, near Haddon, a rocky, uncultivated waste, are numerous remains of antiquity, rocking-stones, barrows, rock-basins, circles of erect stones, &c., generally supposed of Druidical origin.

SUDBURY, six miles from Uttoxeter: the mansion is of red-brick, intermixed with others of a dark colour; and has two small wings; several of the apartments are fitted up in a neat and elegant manner, and a good gallery runs through the house. Sudbury church is an ancient fabric, and being luxuriantly covered with ivy, becomes a picturesque object.

WITTINGTON, near Elmton, is a little village, where the Earl of Danby assembled to concert measures for effecting the Revolution of 1688. According to the traditions of the country, the spot appointed for their deliberation was Wittington Moor, and a shower of rain happening to fall, they removed to the village for shelter, and finished their conversation at a public-house there, the sign of the Cock and Pynot: the small apartment within, where the noblemen sat, had the name of the plotting chamber; but this appellation being thought opprobrious, has been lately changed to the Revolution parlour; an ancient chair is preserved here, in which the Duke of Devonshire is believed to have been seated.

WINFIELD. The manor house, even in its present ruinous condition, exhibits many specimens of its original magnificence. This mansion was castellated and embattled in the reign of Elizabeth, and was at times made the place of confinement of Mary Queen of Scots, under the Earl of Shrewsbury. Her suite of apartments, tradition informs us, was on the west side of the north court, which was the most beautiful part of the building.

WINGERWORTH HALL, two miles from Chesterfield, is a spacious building, commanding several extensive prospects. Since the time of Queen Elizabeth, the Hunloke family has regularly resided here. On Stainedge Cliff, which forms part of the Hunloke estate, are several rock-basins, and two seats, supposed to have been a gurial.

WILLERSLEY CASTLE, stands on the south side of a commanding eminence. It contains several excellent family portraits by Wright of Derby, as well as his sublime view of Ulls-water-lake. The grounds of Willersley possess great variety and beauty.

DEVONSHIRE.

Length 70 miles. Breadth 64. Circumference 280. Square miles 2,488. Square acres 1,590,320. Hundreds 32. Market towns 35. Parishes 464. Houses 65,559. Persons 396,100.—Diocese of Exeter.—Western Circuit.—Members of Parliament 26.—Militia men 1,600.

BOUNDARIES.—This county is one of the most valuable in England. In point of size, it is only exceeded by that of York. On the north and north-west flows the Bristol Channel; on the west the river Tamar, and a small rivulet, called Marsland Water; on the south and south-east is the English Channel; on the east and north-east are Dorset and Somerset.

The external aspect of Devonshire is exceedingly varied and irregular; and the heights in many parts, particularly in Dartmoor and its vicinity, swell into mountains.

The district called the South Hams, is frequently termed the garden of Devonshire, from its fertility. Its area, including the rich valley of the Dart, is nearly 250 square miles. This track is strikingly diversified by bold swells, winding coombs, and fine vales; and in many parts, particularly towards the north, the scenery is picturesque and highly romantic. The natural boundaries of the district named *West Devon*, are—on the east, the Dartmoor Mountains; on the south, Plymouth Sound, and its several estuaries; the river Tamar on the west; and on the north, Brent Tor and the adjacent heaths. The surface is extremely diversified.

North Devon, in its most extended sense, comprehends the whole district situated between Dartmoor and the English Channel; but more generally its signification is limited to the country round Bideford, Barnstaple, South Molton, and the north coasts. In this tract the ground is greatly diversified, and the scenery beautiful. The gradations in landed property are in this county perhaps more regular than in any other part of England. Except in a few families, there are no great freeholds; and the inhabitants, who live in respectability on their

own estates, are numerous and sociable. The variety of surface in Devonshire has a proportionable effect on the weather, which varies exceedingly in different situations. In the Vale of Exeter and the South Hams the air is dry and warm, and the harvest earlier than in other parts of the west. The winters are generally mild, and the air is particularly favourable in pulmonary complaints. On the south coasts the myrtle flourishes unsheltered. The harvest months of West Devon are comparatively late, but vary in a singular manner with the season. On the north coasts the weather is frequently bleak and boisterous. Among the products of this county should be enumerated a great variety of fish, which abound in its rivers and on the coasts, a considerable quantity of which are sent to the Bath and London markets. In the rivers Tamar and Tavy great numbers of *salmon* are annually taken, and produce large sums to the proprietors, but they are of inferior quality to those taken in many other rivers of this county. The salmon of the Exe are considered as the most delicate and fine flavoured. The prevailing river fish of Devon is the *trout*, for which and the salmon peel the river Otter is remarkable. The plaice of the Devon rivers are particularly delicious. Oysters are taken on the coasts in great abundance.

Soil.—Dartmoor and the forest of Dartmoor occupy the greatest portion of the western district; extending from the Vale of Exeter, it nearly reaches to the banks of the Tamar, and includes between 2 and 300,000 acres of open and uncultivated lands; of these Dartmoor alone is supposed to compose upwards of 80,000. Though the Forest of Dartmoor, as its name implies, and tradition corroborates, was once stocked with trees, the only remaining natural wood it now contains is an assemblage of dwarf scrubby oaks, intermixed with a few trees of mountain-ash, willows, &c. The Vale of Exeter differs widely in appearance from Dartmoor, though in some parts it has an irregular billowy surface, and presents eminences of considerable magnitude. The area of this district contains about 200 square miles. The upper grounds of the South Hams are appropriated alternately to pasture and to tillage; the lower grounds are chiefly cultivated as meadows. The principal kind of soil is a strong

red loam, with a sub-stratum of clay. The surface soil of West Devon is remarkably uniform and singular in its component parts. It does not properly class with any of the ordinary description of soils, namely, clay, loam, sand, or gravel, but is rather of a silty nature.

AGRICULTURE.—In the Vale of Exeter, wheat, barley, beans, and pease, are the most general productions of the arable lands; flax is also cultivated, but in no great quantity. The pasture lands are chiefly appropriated to supply the dairy; but in some parts considerable attention is given to the breeding of sheep and cattle. The produce of the dairy is butter and skim-milk cheese. Most of the farms and villages are interspersed with numerous apple-trees. The cottages of the peasantry are chiefly constructed of red earth mixed with straw, and covered with reeds. Great quantities of cider are made in the district called the *South Hams*, and almost every farm has its orchard. A considerable quantity of butter is also made, and the method by which the cream is produced is almost peculiar to Devonshire; all the lands of this district, with the exception of a few small plots, are in a state of permanent enclosure. The fences are chiefly high mounds, surmounted by coppice wood. Nearly two thirds of the enclosed lands of *West Devon* are employed alternately in the cultivation of grasses and corn; the remainder is either in tillage, or occupied by orchard grounds. The cultivated lands of this district are all enclosed; the enclosures being generally large in proportion to the size of farms. The villages are in general few and small, the farm-houses and many cottages being pleasantly scattered over the areas of the townships. The buildings are in general good; stone, slate, and lime, being easily obtained, and at a small expense. The land is chiefly appropriated to the growth of wheat and oats, and the soil is generally productive, except, perhaps, the summits of some of the highest hills. The orchard-grounds are not extensive; but coppice wood is produced in abundance on the sides of the hills and narrow valleys. The enclosures are tolerably large; yet many common fields are met with in this district. The life-tenures, by which land is held in the west of England, form one of the most distinguishing characteristics; leases are generally granted

for three lives, or for 99 years. The breed of cattle in Devonshire has been considered, in many respects, more perfect than any other in England. Oxen have immemorially been used in the plough, and sometimes with horses before them; four aged oxen or six growing steers are the usual number yoked in one plough. The established breed of sheep is the *middle-wooled class*; and the native horses, found on the mountainous districts, resemble the Welch and Highland breeds. Above 50 years ago, almost every moveable was carried on the backs of horses. Wheel-carriages have since been introduced; yet, in the ordinary business of husbandry, hay, corn, straw, fuel, stones, manure, &c., are still conveyed in that manner.

The MINERALOGICAL substances are so various, and the intermixture of the strata is so confused, that it is very apparent this county has, in some distant age, been the theatre of earthquakes and volcanoes. In the CALCAREOUS CLASS is *lime-stone* of almost every description, found in different parts of the county; and many quarries have been opened to procure it, for the purposes of building, agriculture, and ornament. *Gypsum* is obtained in various parts of the county, but is not particularly abundant. In the mines of Beer Ferris, *fluor-spar* is procured in great plenty, and of several varieties both as to shape and colour. Of *stellated-spar* a specimen has been found at Oxton, near Haldon. Argillaceous substances are found in almost every part of the county. Fine white *pipe-clay* is found in abundance at Wear Gifford, and in the valley between Merton and Petrokstow. In the vale of King-Steignton, *pipe* and *potters-clay* is procured in great quantities. *Schistus* is common to almost every part of the county. In the east of Devon are numerous quarries of *slate*. In the SILICEOUS CLASS are *quartz crystals*, which have been found in various parts of Devonshire, but generally very small. *Flints* exist in great abundance, but particularly in the mountainous tract of Haldon. Varieties of *lava*, here called *iron-stone*, *whinstone*, and *basalt*, are found in different parts of the county. *Granite*, called also *moor-stone*, is met with in various places, but particularly on Dartmoor. The most remarkable of the inflammable substances discovered in Devonshire is the *Bovey coal*, the origin of which has occasioned considerable

discussion among geologists. *Pyrites* is obtained in various parts of the county, and has not unfrequently been found in globular balls of different sizes.

The principal METALLIC substances of Devonshire are the ores of tin, lead, iron, and manganese. Gold, silver, copper, bismuth, antimony, and cobalt, have also been found, but in small quantities. The tin-works were anciently numerous and valuable, but have in a great measure been abandoned. The *extraneous fossils* discovered in Devon are of various species and description. They are generally embodied in marble, sand-stone, or flint. The mineral waters are very numerous, and chiefly of the chalybeate kind, though they have not in a particular degree been appropriated to medicinal purposes.

The RIVERS of Devonshire are uncommonly numerous; some of them flow northward into the Bristol, and others southward into the British Channel; being enlarged in their progress by innumerable lesser streams. The principal are the Taw, the Torridge, the Dart, the Teign, and the Exe. The most considerable of the secondary rivers are the Tavy, the Plym, the Yealm, the Arme or Erme, the Aven, the Otter, the Sid, the Axe, and the Lyn.

The TAW rises in Dartmoor, flows towards Chumleigh, and, having received the waters of the Moule, passes Barnstaple, and unites with the Torridge at Appledore.

The TORRIDGE derives its source from the same district as the Tamar, in the northern part of Cornwall. After meandering about 50 miles, it becomes navigable for boats at Weir Gifford; it is then formed into a very rapid river, and, flowing onward, effects a junction with the Taw; proceeding to the north-west, it falls into the Bristol Channel at Barnstaple Bay.

The DART is the principal of all the rivers which spring from the mountainous regions of Dartmoor; its name is derived from the velocity of its current; and perhaps no appellation was ever bestowed with more propriety. A little to the west of Ashburton it forms a charming valley, and flows in placid beauty beneath the high hill which is distinguished by the castle and church of Totness.

Soon afterwards, the Dart, receiving the tide, rolls in a

majestic stream between bold hills, covered with cultivation, woods, and villages, disclosing new beauties at every curve, and presenting a grand object to the adjacent country, varied perpetually both in its form and attendant features.

The TEIGN is the most eastern of the Devonshire rivers, which rises in Dartmoor. The country through which it passes is full of rocks, till it approaches Bovey Tracey, when it glides over a flat marshy ground, and rolling under Teign bridge, spreads itself into a broad shallow channel, and thus runs on without interruption, to the sea.

The EXE has its origin among the wild eminences of Exmoor, and after uniting with the Barle, enters the confines of Devon, near Ex Bridge, thence flowing near Bampton, it sinks into a richly-wooded vale, and passing Tiverton, has its current increased by the streams of the Loman. The Creedy, and the Culm, also mingle their waters with the Exe. Passing Exeter, the Exe proceeds through a fine range of meadows to Topsham, where it meets the tide, and becomes navigable for vessels of several hundred tons burthen. Hence spreading into a grand estuary, it rolls onward, and near Exmouth flows into the British channel.

The TAVY rises in Dartmoor, and flows to Tavistock. In its progress from Tavistock, it forms various waterfalls and small bays, which combining with the hanging woods on its banks, produce some very interesting picturesque scenery. At some distance below Tamerton Foliot, it falls into the Tamar.

The PLYM issues from Dartmoor, between Plympton and the old town of Plymouth; it spreads into an extensive basin, and soon after unites with the Tamar in forming Plymouth Sound.

The YEALME, the ARME, and the AVEN, rise in Dartmoor, and fall into the British channel, within a few miles of each other.

The OTTER, and the SID, flow from the borders of Somersetshire, across the eastern corner of this county; the *Axe* enters it from Dorsetshire, and all flow into the British channel.

The LYN is a small, yet rapid river, which springs in

the forest of Exmoor, and forcing its way over numberless huge rocks, rushes into the British channel.

Remarkable Places.

BERRY-POMEROY CASTLE, near Totness. These magnificent ruins are situated on a rocky eminence, rising above a pellucid brook. Being shut into a beautiful valley, they are so finely overhung with branches of trees and shrubs, which grow close to the walls, so beautifully mantled with ivy, and so richly incrusted with moss, that they constitute the most picturesque objects that can be imagined and combined with the surrounding scenery, the ruins of Berry-Pomeroy Castle must be considered as almost unparalleled in their effect.

BICTON, four miles from Sidmouth, is a seat of Lord Rolle: the mansion is a spacious building, standing in a pleasant park, plentifully stocked with beech and oak trees, and abounding in deer. The church is a small neat building, situated in a romantic spot, and encircled by a beautiful screen of woods.

BUCKLAND ABBEY, a seat of Lord Heathfield, is situated on the eastern banks of the river Tavy. Some parts of the building still preserve a monastic appearance; but modern alterations have nearly obliterated its ancient features.

CASTLE HILL, the splendid seat of Lord Fortescue, is about three miles from South Moulton. The mansion is situated on the acclivity of a finely-wooded eminence, whose summit is decorated with an artificial semblance of a ruined castle, and commands a prospect of very considerable extent. The grounds in front of the house are disposed into various pleasing slopes, which gradually descend from the terrace to a fine sheet of water, and are diversified with stately groves. Various ornamental buildings are scattered through the park, which presents some very pleasing scenery, but the hand of art is perhaps too apparent.

CHUDLEIGH, nine miles from Exeter, is a small neat town. The bishops of Exeter formerly had a magnificent palace, about a quarter of a mile to the south, part of which is yet remaining. The views in the vicinity are eminently beautiful. The neighbourhood is famous for

cider. The houses are chiefly disposed in one long street. The market is on Saturday. Fairs on Easter Tuesday, 21st of June, and 2d of October. Number of houses 360; inhabitants 1,786.

CHUDLEIGH ROCK, about half a mile from the town, is one of the most striking inland rocks in the island. Viewed from the west, it exhibits a bold, broad, and almost perpendicular front, apparently one solid mass of marble; from the south-east a hollow opens to the view, with an impetuous stream rushing over the rude stones that impede its passage, and forming in one part of its course a romantic water-fall. From the highest part of the rock, the views are very rich, and the scenery is composed of fine hanging woods; and in some places the branches of a picturesque oak form a sort of natural canopy.

CLOVELLY COURT, three miles from Hartland, situated on a romantic steep adjoining the sea, is a neat mansion, erected on the site of a more ancient structure. The views from the house and grounds are extremely grand. Above the cliffs, to the south-east of the village, are the remains of an encampment, called Clovelly Dikes. These works are of a square form; but when constructed, or by what people, is unknown.

CLYST HOUSE was, previous to the dissolution, a palace of the bishop of Exeter. It is a large and venerable building, though some portion of its former grandeur has been destroyed by the removal of the gate-way. The front commands views of a great extent of country.

COLCOMBE HOUSE, near Colyton, was erected by the Earls of Devon, in the time of Edward I., but on the attainder of Henry marquis of Exeter, the crumbling edifice was left to ruin. It was afterwards rebuilt, but is again in a state of decay.

COMPTON CASTLE, situated at the higher extremity of the village of Compton, is now in ruins. Part of the north front with its tower, gateway, and some portion of the chapel, still remain, but the picturesque effect has been destroyed by modern alterations, the ruins being partially fitted up as the out-buildings of a farm.

DARTINGTON, about two miles from Totness. The manor house is a building, or rather mass of buildings, of

considerable antiquity, standing on an elevated spot; some of the windows command a fine view of the beautiful vale of Totness, &c. The walls are of black marble, exceedingly firm, and well built; it is probable that the dwelling house, and other apartments now used, were originally nothing more than offices to the most superb structure, inhabited by the Duke of Exeter's family, of which the great hall is the only part of consequence now perfect. In that part inhabited, are a few very beautiful paintings, and also a good collection of drawings, chiefly by the old masters.

DARTMOOR, an extensive waste, presents many interesting objects. From its higher parts innumerable streams descend, and taking various directions, spread fertility and beauty through a considerable portion of the country. Its surface is also diversified by vast masses of granite, which springing up from the various points, are distinguished by the name of *Tors*, and may be seen at the distance of many miles.

The forest was once full of trees; and as the Britons invariably preferred the woods to the plains, there is no doubt but they erected many fortresses on the sylvan heights of Dartmoor. The ancient tracts over Dartmoor are marked by high stones, placed about a mile asunder, and just discernible from each other in fine weather. These, before the new roads were made, were all the directions the traveller had to guide him over the desolate waste. The inhabitants who live on the skirts of the forest, generally attain an extraordinary age. They reckon themselves middle-aged only when they arrive at *sixty*; and it is no very uncommon thing to hear of the death of a man of 70 years of age, spoken of as premature.

DARTMOUTH, 204 miles from London, is a very considerable seaport town, situated near the confluence of the river Dart with the British channel. The bay which the river forms at its mouth, is one of the most beautiful scenes on the coast.

The harbour of Dartmouth is very safe, and sufficiently capacious for 500 sail; the entrance is defended by a castle, and two platforms of cannon. At the south end of the town are the venerable walls of a more ancient castle, rising immediately above the water. This build-

ing appears to have been circular, but of no great strength. Dartmouth contains three churches, and a meeting-house for dissenters. A considerable portion of the trade of the town arises from the Newfoundland fishery, which is carried on to a great extent, and furnishes labour for near 3,000 men. The quay is commodious and extensive; before it is a spacious street, where the principal merchants have their residence; most of the houses are large and convenient.

The flesh market is on Friday, the fish market on every day except Sunday. The number of houses 460, inhabitants 3,412.

The EDYSTONE ROCKS AND LIGHT-HOUSE, are irregular rocks, situated about 12½ miles from the middle of Plymouth Sound, and so exposed to the heavy swells from the Bay of Biscay, and the Atlantic Ocean, that the waves beat against them with incredible fury. Their particular form and position is a circumstance that greatly tends to augment the force and height of the seas which break over them. Previous to the erection of the light-house, many fatal accidents happened from ships running upon these dreadful rocks.

ESCOT HOUSE is situated in a most fertile part of the county, about five miles from Honiton. The house is built of brick, with some few stone ornaments, and is disposed in a commodious manner. Many of the rooms are adorned with valuable landscapes, portraits, and other paintings. Perhaps there are no plantations in Devonshire so strong and luxuriant as those at Escot; the firs, as well as the forest trees, are very large, tall, and branching. The house stands in a demesne of about 500 acres.

EXETER, 173 miles from London, *the emporium and principal ornament of the west*, as it has been emphatically styled, is a city of great antiquity; and, though its origin cannot be distinctly ascertained, there is sufficient evidence to induce a belief that it was a settlement of the Britons long prior to the Roman invasion.

The CATHEDRAL is particularly worthy of attention; the windows are very large, and contain fine specimens of painted glass. In the north tower is a curious clock, given by Bishop Courtenay, which is worthy of notice for the singularity of its ornaments, and the ingenuity of its

mechanism. The *great bell* of Exeter, given by Bishop Courtenay, is an object of much notoriety. It weighs 12,500 pounds, and is suspended from the top of the north tower.

Besides the cathedral, Exeter contains 15 churches within the walls, and four in the suburbs; but most of them are small, and present nothing peculiar. It has also several chapels for different christian denominations, and a Jew's synagogue.

The situation of Exeter is commanding and pleasant; it stands on the acclivity of an eminence on the eastern bank of the river Exe, which flows in a semi-circular direction round the south-west side of the city. In the highest part of the city, on the north side, stand the remains of ROUGEMONT CASTLE, formerly the seat of the West Saxon kings, and afterwards of the dukes of Exeter. Among the ancient buildings of Exeter, may be specified one in Water Lane, which is said to have been formerly the Guildhall, and which was the first christian church in Exeter. In the Guildhall, a respectable building in the High Street, are several valuable portraits of illustrious personages. The streets and houses, in general, have the appearance of antiquity, though various handsome buildings have been erected. The charitable institutions are very numerous. The bishop's palace at Exeter is a venerable fabric, standing near the south-east end of the cathedral. On the north side of the city, below the castle-hill, is the gaol for the county of Devon. Its situation is pleasant, and the interior of the building is conveniently disposed. The corporation consists of a mayor, 24 aldermen, a recorder, chamberlain, town clerk, sheriff, four stewards, and several inferior officers

Exeter was one of the first cities that returned members to parliament. The right of election is vested in the magistrates and freemen, who are supposed to amount to about 1,200 persons. The number of houses is 3,208—inhabitants 20,305.

EXMOUTH, 168½ miles from London, so named from its situation at the mouth of the river Exe, and now one of the best-frequented watering-places in Devon, was little more than a century ago only a small hamlet, inhabited by fishermen. It is situated near the sea-shore, between

the cliffs, which open, as it were, on purpose to receive it, and is furnished with every accommodation for a watering-place. It is well sheltered by some high hills, which supply the place with excellent water. The buildings, in general are low and iucommodious; but there are some good houses, inhabited by genteel families, and a spacious assembly-room. The walks are delightfully pleasant, and command fine views. This town contains 406 houses and 1,909 inhabitants.

FARINGDON HOUSE is a spacious and commodious building; the grounds are pleasant, and the plantations particularly flourishing. The prospect from Windmill Hill, at a little distance from the house, reported to have been the site of a Roman entrenchment, is very extensive.

FLEET HOUSE, two miles from Modbury, is finely situated on an eminence, on the western side of the river Erme; part of it is very ancient, but many alterations have been recently made, and an extensive and elegant front erected towards the north.

FOWELSCOMBE is an ancient and venerable structure, about four miles from Modbury.

FRITHELSTOKE, a village opposite Torrington. Here are the ruins of a priory, founded in the reign of Henry III. for secular Augustine canons; the site of the priory is now a farm-yard. The chief remains of the buildings are the walls of two or three apartments, that seem to have been those of the prior, the west window of the conventual church, which still continues perfect, and the great gate.

FULFORD (Great,) about nine miles from Exeter; the mansion is one of the most ancient in the county, and still retains much of its original character. It stands on a rising ground, near an extensive sheet of water, and is built in the quadraugular shape; the apartments are numerous and extensive, many of them fitted up in a handsome style, and embellished with several fine and curious paintings. Like many of the large ancient mansions, this had its domestic chapel, which is still preserved in a perfect state: the park abounds with a variety of forest-trees, and presents a great inequality of surface, which combined with many views of the

distant country, renders the scenery greatly diversified and interesting.

HARTLAND ABBEY, 13 miles from Bideford, is situated in a narrow vale, the sloping sides of which are richly mantled with hanging woods. The mansion was rebuilt, and includes the site, and some portion of the ancient abbey.

HOLCOMBE COURT, is an extensive and rich demesne, about five miles east of Bampton; the mansion is a venerable building of lime-stone, having a porch and tower at the entrance.

LUPTON HOUSE, is a structure of considerable elegance, standing in a fine situation on an ascent; the southern front is particularly handsome, the surrounding eminences are richly clothed with wood, and at their feet are spread some fertile and well watered vales.

LUSCOMBE HOUSE, is seated in a narrow valley, about one mile from Dawlish church. The house is an elegant mansion, and the grounds are composed of a succession of hill and dale.

LYDFORD, a poor decayed village, consisting of a few ragged cottages, is situated about seven miles from Tavistock, and is still the principal town of the stannaries, wherein the court is held, relating to those causes. Some remains of its ancient importance may still be seen in a square tower, or keep of a castle; the tower is situated on a mound of earth, which forms the eastern side of an entrenched area. The scenery is singularly picturesque and romantic; but the most prominent objects of curiosity and admiration, are the bridge and two cascades.

MAMHEAD, the seat of Lord Lisburne, four miles from Chudleigh, has obtained considerable celebrity among the ornamental and beautiful places of this county, but most of its charms have been injured by neglect. The woods and plantations are numerous and extensive; towards Haldon, the most beautiful plantations of firs and forest trees in Devonshire, are crowned, at the top of the hill, by a noble obelisk; in front of the house the easy swell of the lawn, whose smooth verdure is relieved by groups of trees and shrubs, most judiciously disposed, claims admiration.

MARISTOW, on the eastern bank of the river Tavy, is a seat of considerable beauty; the inequality of the grounds, windings of the Tavy, and rich hanging woods, which characterize this demesne, present many highly picturesque and beautiful views.

MEMBURY CASTLE, three miles from Axminster, is an ancient edifice, on a very high spot of land, on the east side of the river Axe; its situation is judiciously chosen, commanding some extensive views of sea and land. It was rebuilt shortly after the civil wars, and was the birth-place of the celebrated Duke of Marlborough.

MORWELL HOUSE, about three miles from Tavistock, was the hunting-seat of the abbots of Tavistock; its form is quadrangular, with a large arched gateway in front, ornamented in a similar manner to those of the Abbey; the vaulted ceiling of the entrance has several coats of arms sculptured in moorstone.

MORWELL ROCK, near Morwell House, rises almost perpendicularly to an immense height from the bed of the Tamar, the views from its summit are uncommonly beautiful, bursting upon the sight with singular effect. The tower of Calstock, and the distant hills of Cornwall, fading into the blue horizon, form a fine contrast to the neighbouring headland, which appears rough with rocks, and indented with the excavations left by mining.

MOUNT EDGECUMBE, near Plymouth, is the seat of the Earl of Mount Edgecumbe. This demesne possesses many beautiful and pleasing scenes, and presents, from the high grounds, a singular variety of interesting prospects. The mansion was completed in the reign of Queen Mary, and is built of red lime-stone, covered with rough stucco: the door and window cases are of moor-stone: its form is nearly square, with a tower at each corner, and battlements at the top. The chimney pieces, the tables, and several *terms* supporting busts, are of Cornish granite, and exhibit very beautiful specimens of all the varieties of that stone. The only paintings which decorate the apartments are portraits. The house is situated on the side of a beautifully-wooded hill, in a spacious lawn, bounded with rich old timber, growing

down to the water's edge: from the windows of its northern and eastern fronts, it commands extensive and finely-variegated prospects. The grounds occupy an area of about three miles in circumference, which includes the whole of the peninsula formed by the Tamar and its branches on one side, and the open sea on the other, and connected by a very narrow isthmus to the main land. The deer park is on the summit of the hill. The views from this point are almost unparalleled for their variety and picturesque grandeur. The woods abound with fine chesnut, oak, beech, elm, and lime, oriental and occidental planes, tulip trees, Carolina poplars, American and other oaks, cedar of Lebanon, and every sort of fir and pine. Every part of this place is converted into pleasure grounds, and intersected with a great variety of walks; the whole has been laid out, at different times, by the proprietors themselves, no landscape gardener having ever been employed.

NEWHOUSE is the name of an estate and mansion in the parish of Mamhead. It was formerly a very considerable seat, but the place is neglected, and ruin and decay are making their direful progress on the house, gardens, and every object of art.

NUTWELL, the beautiful seat of Lord Heathfield, is situated on the east side of the river Exe, nearly opposite to Powderham Castle; it has been nearly rebuilt, on a more ample scale, and at a very great expense. The plantations are much improved and extended. The contiguous scenery is highly interesting.

OAKHAM CASTLE. The ruins of this castle are situated about one mile south-west of the town, on a high mass of rock, which rises from the verdant meadows of the valley, and are skirted on one side by the western branch of the river. The extensive area which these ruins include, the solidity of their structure, and the advantages of situation, prove that this fortress, before it was dismantled, must have been strong and important. The river meanders through the intervening meads, and laves with its waters the roots of the ruined walls. The whole of the surrounding scenery is exceedingly pleasing, the acclivities being covered with fine woods, which, in combination with the mouldering turrets, and ivy-

clad ruins of the castle, form some very picturesque views.

OXTON HOUSE is about one mile west of Kenton. The house stands on a rising knoll, at the junction of three narrow valleys; the great variety of grounds appertaining to this sweetly sequestered mansion, the umbrageous woods, devious paths, and charming prospects of sea and land, unite in rendering it beautifully picturesque and interesting.

PLYMOUTH, 215 miles from London, is situated at the mouth of the Plym, at no great distance from its junction with the ocean. The streets in general are ill-constructed, narrow, irregular, and some of them steep; many of the bye streets are extremely dirty. Its trade is extensive, though depending principally on shipping, and the royal navy. The pilchard fishery at this port is considerable, and great quantities of the fish are exported to Italy, and other parts of the Mediterranean.

In Plymouth are two spacious churches; the most ancient is dedicated to St. Andrew.

Dissenters are numerous; and meeting-houses have been erected for the accommodation of the various denominations.

The Theatre is a large and neatly ornamented building.

The Guildhall has been re-built, and is a spacious structure, situated at the junction of four streets.

A Reading Society, and several book clubs, have lately been established here, through the exertions of a few spirited individuals.

This Town, including Plymouth Dock, contains 4,447 houses, and 43,194 inhabitants.

PLYMOUTH DOCK, though of such considerable magnitude, is wholly of modern date, and owes its origin and rapid increase to the establishment of the Dock-yard and Arsenals. It stands on a pleasant eminence, between Stonehouse Creek on the east, and Hamoaze on the west. The streets are regular, and well-built; and, with one exception, nearly intersect each other at right angles. The town is well paved; the foot-paths with marble obtained on the manor, and which having received a considerable polish from the feet of passengers, and action of the wea-

ther, has a very beautiful appearance when washed by a shower.

The town of Dock, and the dock-yard, are defended by strong fortifications. On the north-east and south sides, the town is bounded by a wall about 12 feet high. The DOCK-YARD is acknowledged to be one of the finest in the world. It is separated from the town by a wall of slate and limestone, in some places thirty feet high: the entrance to it from the land side is guarded with the utmost vigilance by three under porters, and two military sentinels, who suffer no person to enter who is not well known, or in uniform, without an order in writing from the commissioners.

To the town of Dock belongs one church, the chapels of St. Aubyn, and St. John, and several meeting-houses.

The market is well supplied with most of the necessaries of life, except corn, particularly with fish.

POWDERHAM CASTLE, the principal seat of the Courtenay family, is most delightfully situated on the banks of the Exe, within two or three miles of its confluence with the British Channel. The grounds are extensive, finely planted with deciduous and exotic trees, and diversified with some bold swells. The park and plantations belonging to this domain, extend through a circumference of nearly ten miles, and the pleasure gardens behind the house are replete with a vast number of botanical rarities.

SALTRAM, near Plymouth, possesses many singular attractions; for, exclusive of a great diversity of landscape and massy woods, the prospect of Plymouth Sound, the town, citadel, Mount Edgecumbe, and the endless variety of effects peculiar to the sea and harbour, are extremely interesting. The mansion is the largest in the county, the principal suite of apartments is on the ground-floor, many of the rooms are fitted up with much elegance, and contain a numerous and valuable collection of paintings, by ancient and modern masters.

SHARPHAM, a delightful residence, is situated on the brow of a thickly-wooded declivity, which rises from the margin of the Dart, about two miles below Totness. The scenery it commands is extremely picturesque, and

many of the views from the grounds are also eminently beautiful. The mansion is an elegant building of free-stone.

SHUTE HOUSE is about three miles from Axminster. The old manor-house is falling fast to decay. A new house was begun upon a large scale, at the distance of a quarter of a mile. This has never been finished; the plan of the new building is a square body, with two uniform wings, connected by corridors.

SIDMOUTH, 162 miles from London, is a small neat market-town, situated in a bottom, at the mouth of a narrow valley, opening to the sea, between two steep ranges of hills. The population and buildings have lately increased in consequence of its being much frequented in the summer season, for the purposes of bathing and re-creation. The accommodations are good; and an elegant ball-room, billiard-room, and tea-room, have been erected for the convenience of the visiters.

The market is on Saturday. Fairs on Easter Tuesday and the Wednesday after the first of September. The number of houses, 229. Inhabitants, 1,252.

STOWFORD is pleasantly situated, about half a mile from the picturesque village of Ivy Bridge, near the foot of the hill, called West Beacon. From the summit of this eminence, and also from the adjacent one, named the East Beacon, the prospects are very extensive and beautiful.

TAWSTOCK is about three miles from Barnstaple. This seat has a stately appearance from the great road on the opposite side of the river Taw, from which it borrows its name. This place commands at one view, the best manor, most noble mansion, finest church, and richest rectory in the county. The house having been nearly destroyed by fire in 1776, was partly rebuilt in the Gothic style, and the approaches through the woods and park grounds, which are of great extent, have been much embellished.

TOR ABBEY is finely seated amidst some ancient and noble trees, and commands an interesting prospect of Torbay, and the rocky tors in the vicinity; the house is mostly modern, though some parts of the old abbey are still preserved. It consists of a centre and two wings,

one of which is connected with a castellated gateway, having an octagonal tower and battlements.

TORBAY, three miles from Dartmouth; this noble bay has frequently afforded its protection to the fleets of England, which in their full array ride safely within its ample bosom. Here the prince of Orange, afterwards William III., landed on the 5th of November 1688, to effect the ever-memorable and glorious revolution. The form of the bay is semi-lunar, and its circumference about 12 miles. The winding shores on both sides, are screened with grand ramparts of rock. Wood grows all round the bay, even on its rocky sides, and in the central parts, with great luxuriance. Near this bay is a remarkable place called Kentshole, consisting of many caverns, entered by subterraneous passages.

TORQUAY is an extremely pleasant village and watering-place, situated on a cove, about two miles from the extreme point of the promontory called *Hope's Nose*, which forms the northern boundary of Torbay.

UGBROOK, the seat of Lord Clifford, is one mile from Chudleigh. This demesne for internal beauties, is one of the most enchanting spots in Devon, the grounds containing all the variety of objects which constitute beautiful scenery; wood, water, rock, and unevenness of surface. The park abounds with elm, chestnut, oak, and ash, of the most luxuriant growth, and with the adjacent pleasure grounds and plantations, comprehends a space between seven and eight miles in circumference. The mansion is seated on the declivity of an eminence, built in a quadrangular form, with two fronts, and four towers, and is furnished with battlements, and rough-casted. The chapel and library form a distinct wing. The library is a spacious apartment, planned by Adams, and elegantly finished; it contains an ample and choice collection of ancient and modern books. The approach to the house from the turnpike road leading to Plymouth, winds through a space of nearly half a mile, and includes a beautiful intermixture of lawn, wood, rock, and water. The park contains about 600 head of deer. Many of the oak and other trees are of uncommon magnitude, and shoot their branching arms to a stupendous height and distance.

WARLEIGH was the principal residence of the Foliat

family, in the reign of Stephen.—This mansion is beautifully situated near the junction of the Tay, with the Tamar, and the grounds are extremely pleasant.

WERRINGTON, two miles from Launceston, is a seat of the Duke of Northumberland, situated on the western side of the river Tamar. The house boasts nothing extraordinary in its architecture, but the situation is particularly fine, commanding a richly diversified and expansive view of a well-wooded park, the windings of the river Aire, and Dartmoor hills, &c. On the most elevated grounds in front of the house, are two structures, intended as architectural ornaments, one is an artificial ruined castle, and the other a triumphal arch. Near the house is the parish church, an elegant modern structure.

WHYDDON PARK, near Chagford, displays several fine views, arising from the combination of its woody and rocky scenery. The situation of the house, like that of many of the ancient mansions in the county, is injudiciously chosen; though at no great distance behind these, is one of the most beautiful prospects in the vicinity of the Teign. The rocks are immense, and shaded for the most part by the dark umbrage of some magnificent oak trees, which throwing their giant arms over these hoary piles of stone, form an association highly interesting.

WOLFORD LODGE is delightfully situated on the southern side of a high range of hills, forming a semicircle round three of its sides. The declivities are decorated with fine hanging woods, and many young plantations are springing up. This mansion is furnished in a commodious and comfortable manner. Some of the rooms are large, and contain a few good portraits, and a great collection of maps, plans, and military treatises; the prospects from the house and surrounding hills, embrace a great extent and variety of richly cultivated country.

DORSETSHIRE.

Length 50 miles—Breadth 35—Circumference 200. Square miles 1,129. Square acres 722,560. Hundreds 34. Market-towns 24. Parishes 270. Houses 24,222. Persons 128,900.—Diocese of Bristol.—Western Circuit.—Members of Parliament 20.—Militiamen 640.

BOUNDARIES.—On the north lie the counties of Wiltshire and Somersetshire; on the east, Hampshire; on the west, Devon, and part of Somerset; and on the south flows the *British* Channel. The shape of Dorsetshire is very irregular. Its general appearance is uneven, and in many parts very hilly. Its most striking features are the open and unenclosed parts, covered with numerous flocks of sheep feeding on the verdant produce of the downs.

In the natural divisions of this county, the greater proportion of the land is appropriated to pasture amounting to 430,000 acres; the arable is estimated at 250,000 acres. The principal sheep country is round Dorchester. Dorsetshire, from the mildness of the air, and the beauty of its situation, has been termed the *Garden of England.*

The fish obtained on the coasts are of various descriptions, but the *mackerel fishery* is the most considerable. The other products of this county are corn, cattle, butter, sheep, wool, timber, flax, and hemp. The Isle of Purbeck is famous for its stone-quarries; some of the stone, taking a polish nearly equal to marble, is used for chimney-pieces, hearths, &c.; and the coarser kinds for paving. The Isle of Portland produces most valuable free-stone.

SOIL.—The soils of this county vary in different parts. About Bridport, the lower lands are mostly deep rich loams; on the higher hills, throughout the western district, the soil is a sandy loam, intermixed with a base kind of flint, and well adapted to the growth of beech. To the north of Sherborne, which affords some of the best arable land in the county, it is a stone brack, which is the case in the Isle of Portland, and most parts of the Isle of Purbeck. In the centre of the county the soil is good. The open and unenclosed parts are in general poor land.

In some local spots, appropriated to the growth of underwood, the soil is chiefly cold and wet. The Downs are principally of a light chalky soil, with a turf remarkably fine. The Vale of Blackmore is surrounded with hills of a deep rich soil. The meadows on the sides of the Piddle and the Frome possess great quantities of lime-stone and pipe-clay.

AGRICULTURE.—The tillage land in this county is less attended to than any other part of agriculture. The sowing of wheat is often effected with only one ploughing. Barley affords a great produce, and a large portion of malt is made for the nternal consumption of the county. The strong beer is famous; the ale is also particularly celebrated, and in some respects unequalled. The growth of hemp and flax is here of great agricultural importance; the best seed is annually imported from Riga. Lime is used in great quantities as a manure; sea-weed and putrid fish are also used, particularly herrings. The proportion of water meadows is no where so great or better managed than in this county. The Dorsetshire cattle, particularly sheep, have long been celebrated. The number of sheep is supposed to be 800,000, of which upwards of 150,000 are sold annually, and sent out of the county. Near 170,000 sheep and lambs are fed within eight miles of Dorchester. There is a very small kind of sheep in the isles of Portland and Purbeck and the neighbouring coast, inferior in size to the Welch. The breed of horses is not particularly regarded. Oxen are frequently employed in agriculture; chiefly the red Devon ox and a mixture of the Hampshire and Wiltshire. The pigs are of a light colour, and not so good as some other sorts. Many of the sheep are purchased by farmers in the vicinity of the metropolis for the sake of their lambs, which come earlier than most others.

MANUFACTURES.—The principal manufacture is flax and hemp, chiefly carried on in the neighbourhood of Bridport and Beaminster. At Shaftesbury and Blandford are large manufactures of shirt-buttons, which employ great numbers of women and children. A sort of flannel or coarse white woollen cloth is likewise made at Shaftesbury, called *swan-skin*. At Stalbridge is a manufactory for spinning silk; and at Sherborne is another upon a larger

scale. At Wimborne considerable business is transacted in the worsted stocking branch; and upwards of a thousand women and children are employed in knitting.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers are the Frome, the Stour, the Piddle, and the Ivel. The *Frome* rises near Evershot, and, having received some smaller streams, flows by Calstock, Maiden Newton, Frampton, and Bradford Peveril, to Dorchester; then running to the south-east it receives the waters of the Winterbourne at Frome Belet, and passing Moreton, Bindon, and Wareham, falls into Poole Bay. The *Stour* enters this county from Wiltshire; and, having reached Sturminster, proceeds towards Blandford, Sturminster, Marshal, Wimbourne, and Parley, and enters Hampshire. The *Piddle* rises northward of Piddle Trenthyde church, and, flowing to the south-east, gives name to several small villages and hamlets: near Reysworth it unites with the waters of Poole Bay. The *Ivel* has its origin from several springs, at a place called Horethorn, in a hill north-east from Sherborne, from which town it flows into Somersetshire, and falls into the Parret.

Remarkable Places.

BADBURY RINGS. This camp occupies the summit of a considerable eminence, and commands a view over a great extent of country. It is of a circular form, with treble ramparts and ditches, having two entrances. The enclosed area measures 18 acres and 102 statute perches in length, and about 16½ acres in breadth. The circumference of the outer rampart is nearly a mile.

BINDON ABBEY is situated about four miles from Lullworth Castle, in a pleasant and retired valley, on the banks of the river Frome. This edifice was founded in the year 1172 for monks of the Cistercian order. Bindon Abbey was in part demolished almost immediately after the dissolution. The abbey church was a spacious and magnificent structure of which only a solitary fragment at present remains. For the convenience of parties who may make occasional trips to this pleasant and retired spot, an edifice has been erected in a style of building correspondent to the ruins.

BRIANSTON, half a mile from Blandford. Here is

an elegant mansion, from which a beautiful cliff extends itself to Blandford bridge, in a semicircular direction, the river flowing in a line before it. This is a very charming spot, and the house is a most desirable residence; it has been newly built of free-stone, nearly on the site of the old mansion. The offices are erected in a separate building, and are very spacious and convenient. The apartments are finished in an elegant style, and admired for their proportions as well as decorations. In one of the rooms is a very fine painting, by Stubbs, of a tiger basking at the entrance of his den.

BRIDPORT, 136 miles from London, is a borough town, situated on a deep miry soil, in a vale, surrounded by hills. This town is large, and has a very respectable appearance, many of the houses being new brick buildings. The principal streets are broad and spacious. The inhabitants are principally supported by the manufacture of nets of all sorts, lines, twine, and small cordage, as well as sail-cloth. A handsome market house and town hall has been erected, in the centre of the town. Here are also a charity school, three alms-houses, and a gaol. The church is a large, ancient pile of building, in the form of a cross. This town is governed by two bailiffs, a recorder, 13 capital burgesses, two sergeants at mace, and other officers.

It has a market on Wednesday and Saturday; fairs on old Lady-day, Holy Thursday, and old Michaelmas-day; it contains 287 houses, and 3,117 inhabitants.

CERNE, seven miles from Dorchester, is only remarkable for a few interesting remains of its abbey. Of the church there appear no vestiges. The abbey house is nearly destroyed, a chamber or two only remain. The chief fragment is the gate-house, or principal entrance, which consists of a stately large square embattled tower, of three stories, in tolerable preservation. The other reliques of the abbey are the large and magnificent stone barn, supported by buttresses; traces of the ancient park, gardens, &c. The parish church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a plain but elegant structure, in the pointed style, with a lofty embattled tower, and four pinnacles.

CORFE CASTLE, 18 miles from Poole, stands on a very steep rocky hill; its situation deprives it of much of its natural and artificial strength, being so commanded by

hills, that they overlook the tops of the highest towers; yet its structure is so strong, the ascent of the hill on all sides but the south so steep, and the walls so massy and thick, that it must have been one of the most impregnable fortresses in the kingdom before the invention of artillery. The exact period when this fortress was erected is unknown, but it is supposed to have been built by king Edgar, as his second wife, Elfrida, resided here at the commencement of her widowhood. During her residence here was committed the foul murder of king Edward, surnamed the Martyr. In the years 1645, and 1646, the castle was besieged, or rather blockaded by the parliamentary forces. When it was delivered up, the parliament ordered it to be demolished. The ruins are large, and are allowed to be the grandest in the kingdom.

DORCHESTER, 15 miles from Blandford, is a borough town, delightfully situated on an ascent above the river Frome, which bounds it on the north side, at the distance of about six miles from the British channel; and on the south and west, it opens on pleasant towns, intermixed with corn fields. The view is every way uncommonly pleasant; and the numerous flocks of sheep which whiten the plains, the river with its winding course, and the gently-rising hills in the distance, altogether give it an enchanting effect. The town forms an irregular square; it consists principally of three spacious streets, which, with the subordinate ones, are well paved, and, in general adorned with handsome buildings of brick and stone.

ST. PETERS' CHURCH is a large handsome structure, standing near the centre of the town. It possesses a few monuments of distinguished persons, and some inscriptions, curious on account of their antiquity. The churches of the Holy Trinity and All Saints, are not remarkable either for antiquity or beauty; the towers of both are low. The Town Hall is situated at a small distance from St. Peter's church, and is a spacious and handsome edifice, having a market-place under it, and behind it two rows of convenient shops for the town butchers. The Shire Hall is a plain neat building, and well suited to the purposes for which it was erected. In the new gaol are united the county goal, penitentiary house, and house of correction; its external appearance is peculiarly handsome and cha-

racteristic; and the interior possesses every convenience appropriate to its destination. Dorchester contains two Free-schools, two Alms-houses, and other charitable institutions. The environs are extremely pleasant; the surrounding country is level and fruitful; every where covered with sheep. The immediate vicinity of the town is surrounded by agreeable walks, planted with rows of limes and sycamore trees, as are most of the principal avenues. This place is noted for the goodness of its ale, which is sent over all parts of the kingdom.

Here is a good market on Wednesday and Saturday. Fairs on the 12th of February, on Trinity Monday, on the 5th of July, and August 30th. Number of houses 344, inhabitants 2,402.

ENCOMBE, one mile and a half from Kingston, occupies the bosom of a very deep vale, that opens to the British channel; the situation of the mansion here is extremely fine, and a piece of water is so happily managed, as to have the appearance from the windows, of forming part of the sea, which terminates the view along the vale. The grounds are disposed with much taste; the plantations are extensive, and the mansion itself is a very handsome building of Purbeck stone.

GRANGE was anciently the retreat of the abbot of Bindon. The mansion is an elegant and convenient structure; the grounds are very pleasant, and from the judicious intermixture of groves, lawns, and pieces of water, form an agreeable contrast to a dreary heath, which nearly surrounds the estate.

KINGSTON HALL stands upon a gentle ascent, between two or three miles from Wimborne Minster; it is a large substantial building of brick, with stone architraves to the doors and windows, and stone coins; it was erected about the year 1663. The rooms are spacious and elegant, and contain a valuable collection of paintings.

KINGSTON HOUSE, in the parish of Stainsford, is an elegant and stately seat: its situation on a rising ground opening towards the north into a fine down, renders the prospect very agreeable and romantic. The walks are laid out with taste and judgment; and the old canals, &c., are formed into a grand reservoir, interspersed with islands, planted with variegated trees and shrubs.

LULLWORTH CASTLE, six miles from Wareham, is a noble pile, situated on an eminence, in the south-east corner of an extensive park, which occupies a circuit of nearly four miles and a half: it commands a fine view of the sea, as well as extensive prospects of the adjoining country; the present edifice is not of great antiquity; the materials used in erecting it were brought principally from the ruins of Bindon Abbey. The hall and dining-room are large; and in the apartments are some family portraits, by Sir Peter Lely. In the year 1789, during their Majesties' residence at Weymouth, this seat had the honour to receive several royal visits, the particulars of which are commemorated in two inscriptions over the entrance to the castle.

MELBURY SAMFORD, five miles from Beaminster, is remarkable for its church, which is an ancient and neat pile of buildings, in the form of a cross, having a tower rising from the centre; it contains several ancient and curious monuments; the consecrated ground is defined by neat free-stone urns, on which are suitable inscriptions; the noble mansion of the Strangeways, near this church, was built in the beginning of the last century; the present edifice stands on a rising ground, and occupies three sides of a quadrangle. The ground around the mansion is diversified by nature, in beautiful irregularity of hill and dale, of verdant pastures and venerable woods; the apartments of this seat are numerous and elegant, and both they and the windows are richly adorned with the arms and different quarterings of the Strangeways, who are connected by intermarriages with some of the most ancient and noble families in the kingdom.

MILTON ABBEY, 111 miles from London, with its offices, forms four sides of a quadrangle, and is cased externally with a fine white stone. The apartments are numerous; many are furnished with peculiar elegance, and decorated with a collection of paintings by ancient masters. On the south side of the house is a venerable old room, once the refectory, called the monks' hall; this has a fine oak roof, painted and gilt, with a richly carved screen, corresponding to the room.

PARNHAM, near Beaminster. The mansion is a large and ancient structure; the hall is a noble room; the with-

drawing-room contains an original portrait of Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex, and another of his son Gregory, Lord Cromwell; the gallery is ornamented with various portraits of the Strodes, of the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

POKESWELL. A quarter of a mile from this place, is a Druidical Circle, consisting of fifteen stones: extremely old, rough, irregular, and full of holes worn by the weather; round them are the remains of a small ditch. The circle is four yards and a half in diameter.

POOLE, 106 miles from London, is a borough, seaport, and market-town, standing on a peninsula, connected by a narrow isthmus with the main land. Being on the borders of a wide, desolate heath, and an unsheltered shore, it has a dreary and bleak appearance. The borough is very ancient: various privileges have been given, and confirmed to the town by different monarchs; but for its more considerable privileges, Poole is indebted to Elizabeth. This sovereign incorporated and made it a free town, and after adding other immunities, directed it to be formed into a distinct county, and to appoint its own sheriff. The government of Poole is vested in a mayor, four aldermen, and 28 burgesses. The members of parliament are chosen by the burgesses, whether resident or otherwise. The number of voters is 96.

The church is an ancient fabric, and its altar-piece is elegantly constructed of mahogany. In the town are several meeting-houses for presbyterians, quakers, and anabaptists. The principal buildings besides the church, are the market-house, the town-hall, and the woolhouse.

The *bay* unites with the British channel, by a narrow entrance on the east. A considerable oyster fishery is carried on here, which supplies the London markets for two months every season; and no less than forty sloops and boats are employed in this traffic, during which time the receipts are between six and seven thousand pounds: the last day's catching, by a prescriptive regulation, is thrown into the channels in the harbour, where the oysters are left to fatten, and supply the town and neighbouring country during the winter. Other fish are

caught in great abundance, and the harbour plaice are most excellent.

The harbour extends about four miles from North-Haven, to Redclyffe Atwell, on the Purbeck shore. The depth of water is sufficient for any ship not exceeding 14 feet draft. The trade is chiefly confined to Newfoundland; and a number of young seamen are trained up in this fishery. The exports are provisions, nets, cordage, sail-cloth, and all sorts of wearing apparel; with a variety of commodities for plantation consumption. The returns are cod and salmon, afterwards sent to foreign markets, oil, seal-skins, firs, and lately cranberries. The imports and exports of corn are very considerable; the granaries are airy and spacious.

The market at Poole is on Thursday and Monday; fairs 1st May, and 2nd November; number of houses 949; inhabitants 4,761.

PORTLAND ISLE. This Isle, or rather peninsula, long famous for its excellent stone quarries, is situated nearly opposite to Weymouth; but is connected with the main land by a ridge of pebbles, called the *Chesil Bank*. Portland Isle measures about four miles and a half in length, and two in breadth, and is literally one continued bed or rock of freestone. It is not, however, a sterile spot; the herbage is a fine, short pasture; and in wet seasons the meadows produce plentiful crops of luxuriant grass. The sheep are supposed to amount to 3,000: and though of a peculiarly small breed, have been long famous for their delicate flavour. The corn produced here is of an excellent quality. There is very little wood, except a few elms on the south. The whole isle contains but one parish, which includes seven hamlets, or villages. The following are the principal objects of curiosity, viz.—

PORTLAND CASTLE, which commands Weymouth Road, and is the residence of the Governor, whenever he honours the peninsula with his presence. The Old Castle, denominated BOW AND ARROW CASTLE, which is at present only an inconsiderable ruin, containing scattered remnants of walls, and a portion of the Keep. The rocks near it exhibit a bold and truly romantic appearance; and the edge of the cliff, to which probably the site of the original building extended, is awfully perpen-

dicular. The *Light Houses*, situated on the south of the isle, and the *Portland Stone Quarries*, scattered, more or less, over every part of it.

Portland has evidently undergone many alterations from natural convulsions, the marks of which are every where visible, in the various strata of which this island is composed.

The Portland men are ever ready to save the lives of those who have the misfortune to be wrecked on their coast; but they frequently plunder without much ceremony. Number of houses, 311. Inhabitants, 1619.

SHERBORNE CASTLE, 17 miles from Dorchester, the seat of Earl Digby, is a singular structure, both in external appearance and internal arrangement. The centre part, which is the most ancient, was built by Sir Walter Raleigh, who is said to have planted one of the groves which still retains his name. The park, which contains 340 acres, and nearly surrounds the mansion, is justly admired for its picturesque beauty, for the variety of its grounds, its water, and the abundance of its woods.

Sherborne Castle sustained all the chequered fortunes attached to similar buildings during the civil wars. It was one of the first that was formally besieged by the parliamentary army, and one of the last that held out for the king. On the 21st of August, 1645, the parliament ordered this spacious building to be demolished, which was completed before the following October, and out of the ruins was built Castleton Church, part of Sherborne Lodge, or Castle, and some other structures.

WEYMOUTH, 131 miles from London, is a sea-port borough and market town, and also a celebrated and fashionable watering-place; the beauty of its situation, and its acknowledged conveniences for sea-bathing entitle it to every consideration. On entering Weymouth, the first objects of curiosity to the stranger are the Esplanade and the Bay. The Esplanade is one of the most charming promenades in England, adorned by a range of handsome edifices, among which Gloucester Row is peculiarly elegant. This grand public walk is half a mile in length, and in breadth about 30 feet. A flight of stone steps leads to the sands, which are perfectly firm and smooth.

The concourse of fashionable company at this place during the height of the season is very considerable.

The BAY, where the company bathe, makes a beautiful semicircular sweep of nearly two miles, and is admirably protected from all winds by the surrounding hills, which exhibit a most picturesque view. The machines used for bathing are upwards of 30 in number, which in the summer season are fully employed from six or seven o'clock in the morning to twelve at noon, or later. There is likewise a handsome battery, mounting twenty-one small guns, which are generally fired on extraordinary occasions. The Royal Assembly Room is a lofty, light, and spacious building. The Theatre has recently been fitted up in a style of elegance; the boxes are capable of containing 350 spectators; and the manner in which they are decorated is little inferior to the London Theatres. On the quay is a convenient hot salt-water bath, which has effected many cures. The Bridges have been re-built in the Chinese style. The church is a low structure, and contains a fine altar-piece representing the Last Supper. The quakers and the independents have each a meeting-house here.

Market on Tuesday and Friday. Number of houses, 236, and inhabitants, 1,267.

WIMBORNE MINSTER, 6½ miles from Poole, a town of very high antiquity, and celebrated for its beautiful collegiate church, is situated on the river Allen, near its confluence with the Stour, on a dry gravelly soil, in one of the most delightful vales in the kingdom.

The Church is deserving of particular notice, not only for its venerable appearance, but for several peculiarities in its style and structure. Many parts are apparently of the Saxon age.

In this church numerous royal and noble personages have been buried, most of whom were commemorated by suitable monuments; of these many have been destroyed by time, and more by the hand of violence.

WOLVETON HOUSE, in the parish of Charminster, is an old but magnificent seat. The ancient carving and painted glass, throughout the premises, are objects of curiosity. The house is very irregularly constructed.

DURHAM.

Length 47 miles. Breadth 37. Circumference 160—Square miles 1,040. 665,600 square acres. 4 hundreds. 9 market-towns. 73 parishes. 30,075 houses. 183,600 persons.—Diocese of Durham—Northern Circuit—4 Members to Parliament—400 Militia Men.

BOUNDARIES.—The figure of this county is triangular. From the mouth of the Tees to Tynemouth, on the east, rolls the German ocean. On the north, the rivers Tyne and Derwent chiefly divide it from Northumberland. On the west, the Crookburn and the Tees separate it from Cumberland and Westmoreland; and on the south and south-east this county is bounded by the Tees.

Durham contains about 300,000 acres in tillage, and 200,000 in pasturage: the remainder lies waste. The general aspect of this county is hilly and mountainous, and particularly the western angle, crossed by the English Apennines, which is bleak, naked and barren. The eastern and central parts include some beautiful and fertile valleys, and are pleasantly varied with hill and dale, alternately appropriated to corn and pasture. Durham, taking into consideration its small extent, surpasses every other county except Middlesex. The following products are the sources of its opulence and consequence; numerous coal, lead, and iron mines; large cast metal foundries; iron manufactories; potteries; glass houses; copperas works; coal, tar, and salt works; quarries of marble, fire and free stone; lime, brick, and tile kilns; grindstone and mill-stone; and linen and woollen manufactories. The woodlands are not of considerable extent, being chiefly confined to the parks and seats of the nobility. The banks of the rivers and brooks however are fringed with wood of long growth and much value. The public roads are in general good; but those belonging to townships are in many parts extremely narrow, dangerous and irregular.

The SOILS are various; near the Tees, and some other rivers and brooks, the soil is loam, or a rich clay. The hills between the sea, and an imaginary line drawn from

Barnard Castle to Alansford, are generally covered with a dry loam, varying in fertility in proportion to its depth. From this line westward, the summits and sides of the hills are Moorish wastes. The *mineralogical* substances found in this county are numerous and valuable. The east and north-east parts are particularly famous for extensive *coal* mines of incalculable extent. Near Walsingham, a beautiful black-spotted *limestone* is procured for hearths, chimney-pieces, and other ornaments; and also *mill-stone*. Many excellent quarries of *slate* for building are found in this county. Gateshead Fell is particularly famous for what are called Newcastle *grindstones*, and firestone of high estimation is found in various parts of the county, and exported in immense quantities. The principal *lead* mines are situated in Teas-dale and Wear-dale.

AGRICULTURE. In a county possessing such a variety of soil, the produce is of course proportionably various. The usual rotation of crops is, after a summer fallow, wheat, oats, beans or peas, and occasionally broad clover in lieu of the last three. On some few spots of gravelly soil, turnips and barley are grown in almost perpetual succession, a crop of clover being sometimes interposed. The manures are chiefly lime, and the produce of the fold yard; and though abundance of sea-weed might be collected on the coast, yet the farmers in general make no use of it. The farms are chiefly of a middling size, few exceeding 200 acres. About one-third of the land is supposed to be of ecclesiastical tenure, the remainder is possessed by various proprietors, who seldom grant leases for a longer term than six years, which are rendered of little value by injudicious restrictions. The leases under the see of Durham are generally for lives renewable every seven years on payment of an arbitrary fine. The farm yards are in general well situated and commodious; but the fold yards few and small; and for want of granaries, the corn is frequently thrashed before it is dry. The cattle are in great repute, and inferior to none in the essential qualities of form, weight, produce of milk and butter, and quickness of fattening. The sheep are mostly large, and covered with long wool; the most celebrated are the Tees-water.

MANUFACTURES in this county are numerous and important. The south side of the Tyne is fringed with manufactories and coal staiths. At Swalwell and Winlaton are some of the first iron works in England; and at Lumley, is a manufactory for converting scrap-iron into engine-boiler plates, and cast metal into malleable iron. Steel works are established at Shotley-Bridge, Swalwell, Team, and Gateshead. Tammies, carpets, and waistcoat pieces are manufactured at Durham; tammies and huckabacks are also made at Darlington. Cottons are manufactured at Castle Eden, Stockton, and Bishop's Auckland; and sailcloths, glass, and other articles at Stockton, Sunderland, and South Shields.

RIVERS. The principal rivers of Durham are the Tees, the Weare, and the Derwent. The *Tees* rises in the vast moors which form the district where the counties of York, Cumberland, Westmoreland, Durham, and Northumberland, nearly unite. After issuing from the moors, the stream flows through the romantic valley of Tees-dale, when suddenly turning towards the north-east of Stockburne, it falls into the German Ocean, at some distance below Stockton. The river, which is broad, shallow, and rapid, flows amidst rocks, moors, and mountains, frequently ravaging the valley with its inundations, and precipitating itself into vast cataracts. In the highly ornamented territory surrounding the majestic walls and towers of Raby Castle, it forms a fine feature, and preserves its romantic and striking character through a great part of its subsequent progress to the sea.

The *Weare* derives its waters from the same wild range of moors which produces the Tees; but flowing considerably to the north of that river, it crosses the central part of the county, and falls into the sea near Sunderland. Weare-Dale, like Tees-Dale, is a very wild and romantic district, pleasantly interspersed with towns and villages; from the recesses of which the river passes Bishop's Auckland, and, assuming a north-eastern direction, flows onward to the city of Durham, which it nearly surrounds. Thence passing northward, it runs near the walls of Lumley Castle, but turning suddenly to the south, near Birtley, flows towards Sunderland.

The *Derwent* rises northward of the Weare, in the same

range of moors, and pursuing nearly a parallel course with that river, gives animation and interest to a wild and mountainous tract on the northern borders of the county, till it falls into the Tyne near Smallwell.

Remarkable Places.

AXWELL PARK. The mansion is an elegant modern building, erected by Payne; it occupies a pleasant and elevated site, surrounded by grounds beautifully diversified by irregular swells, and judiciously embellished with plantations of forest trees; the east front commands a rich prospect of the Tyne, and the busy towns of Newcastle and Gateshead: the view from the south front of the Woodlands of Gibside, and the adjacent country is also beautiful.

BARNARD CASTLE, 15 miles from Richmond, was founded by Bernard, son of Guy Baliol, who came into England with the Conqueror. The castle, honour, and privileges, with the parks, lands, and appurtenances, were purchased by an ancestor of the present Earl of Darlington. The remains of the castle occupy about six acres and $\frac{3}{4}$, part of which stand on the brink of a steep rock, about 80 feet perpendicular above the Tees, commanding a most beautiful prospect up the river. The outer area of the castle is now used as a pasture for sheep; and other parts enclosed by the walls have been long converted into orchard ground. Many portions of the ruins are richly mantled with ivy, and present very fine prospects. The environs of Barnard Castle are remarkably beautiful; the vale of the Tees abounds with picturesque and romantic views.

BEAR PARK, near Durham. Here are the ruins of an ancient mansion or pleasure-house, which belonged to the priors of Durham Monastery. The ruins of the chapel are the most perfect, and display some neat ornamental architecture. Some remains of the refectory and dormitory are also standing.

BISHOP WEARMOUTH and SUNDERLAND, $12\frac{1}{4}$ miles from Durham, and 272 from London, are so intimately united by buildings, and other local circumstances, that they may be said to form only one town. Sunderland is comparatively of modern origin, and has

arrived at its present importance from the convenience of its port, but Bishop Wearmouth is a place of remote antiquity; its church is a very ancient structure, supposed to have been founded very soon after the restitution made by Athelstan; its original architecture, however, has, in a great measure, been obliterated by subsequent alterations.

The principal structure on the Bishop Wearmouth side, and the greatest curiosity in this county, is the magnificent iron bridge of a single arch, which has been thrown over the river Wear, and connects with the new road leading to Newcastle and Shields. This noble fabric is indebted for its origin to Rowland Burdon, Esq., of Castle Eden, who was assisted in its construction by the scientific abilities of Mr. Thomas Wilson, engineer. The whole weight of the iron is 260 tons; of these, 46 are malleable, and 214 cast. The piers, or abutments, are piles of almost solid masonry. The expense of building this bridge, amounted to 27,000*l*. Mr. Burdon subscribed 23,000*l*.; the remainder was raised by subscription. To defray this expense, a small toll was levied on all passengers.

SUNDERLAND being originally part of Wearmouth parish, was not mentioned by historians as a distinct place, till its increasing commerce brought it into notice. Near the extremity of the north pier, an elegant circular light-house has been built. The trade of Sunderland has long been in a state of progressive increase; but its augmentation during the latter part of the last century has been very rapid. The coal trade is the principal, and furnishes employment for nearly 520 vessels, independent of the *keels*, which convey the coals from the Staiths to the ships, amounting to 492. The number of persons depending on this trade on the river Wear alone, amounts to about 30,000.

The parish of Sunderland was separated from Bishop Wearmouth, and established as an independent rectory, by an act of parliament passed in the year 1719. The church is a spacious and handsome fabric; besides which, and a very spacious chapel of ease, there are several meeting-houses for methodists, presbyterians, independents, baptists, quakers, &c. Several benevolent insti-

tutions exist in different parts of the town; particularly a *dispensary*, a *humane society*, a *charity* for decayed seamen, and seamen's widows, a *school* for girls, and a *blue coat school* for boys.

At a short distance to the south, on the very edge of the sea banks, is a strong *chalybeate* spring, resembling that at Harrowgate. For the amusement of the inhabitants, a large *assembly-room* and *theatre* have been built. The most respectable buildings are in Bishop-Wearmouth, and the High Street of Sunderland; the lower part of the latter is, however, much disfigured by the stalls and shambles which are suffered to stand on each side the highway. Many of the inhabitants derive employment from a *patent ropery*, established on the banks of the river, about a mile from Bishop-Wearmouth, from the manufacture of bottles and broad glass and of white and brown earthen-ware. Additional employment is furnished by a copperas manufactory, and various free-stone quarries in the neighbourhood. An amusing scene to a stranger, is displayed by a number of the lower class of inhabitants, who attend the rising of the tide on the sea-shore below the town, and with hand baskets catch the small coals that are floated in by the waves. It has been asserted as a fact, that previous to the establishment of the various manufactories in this vicinity, upwards of 500 poor people have been engaged at one time in this singular occupation.

The number of houses in Bishop Wearmouth, 844. Inhabitants, 6,126. Houses in Sunderland, 1,365. Inhabitants, 12,412.

BLACK HILLS, five miles from Hartlepool, one of the most singular and romantic clusters of rocks in the North of England, are so called from various caverns, some of which run many yards beyond the light of day; others are open, and supported by natural pillars.

BRADLEY HALL, a neglected and dilapidated mansion of the Bowes family, lies in a fine valley, bordering on Houslip Beck. It was embattled and fortified with deep moats, and a curtain wall. In the front is a projection apparently of the age of James I., with large windows, and in a more finished style than the other parts of the building. The lower apartments are vaulted.

BRANCEPETH CASTLE, four miles from Durham, an irregular but stately pile, was erected by the family of the Bulmers; most probably during the early part of the usurpation of Stephen. The main pile is very irregular, from subsequent additions made to the original building, which appears to have consisted of four distinct quadrangular towers, having projecting angles serving as buttresses, and provided with turrets, similar to those on the wall; various modern improvements have been made in the interior for domestic purposes; and several of the apartments are spacious, and handsomely fitted up. In this neighbourhood are two medicinal springs, one vitriolic, the other sulphureous.

BUTTERBY, two miles south of Durham. The manor-house, which stands in a low and recluse situation, near the banks of the Wear, is encompassed by a moat, walled round, which, though now dry, can be filled with water to the depth of 15 feet. The grounds belonging to this manor are remarkably fertile.

CASTLE EDEN is a spacious and handsome castellated edifice, beautifully situated on the top of the woody precipice that forms the southern boundary of the romantic defile called Castle Eden Dean, and commanding a fine land and sea prospect.

CASTLES, (The) near Hare-hope Bourne, a singular piece of antiquity, is an enclosure of an oblong figure at the foot of a high ridge of hills, defended on every side by a lofty mound, or vallum, of loose pebbles, with an outward ditch; large oaks, and birch trees, now grow among the pebbles; and what is remarkable, juniper trees are here come to a vast size and strength of stature.

CAULDRON SNOUT, a cataract on the Tees, is about four miles above the High Force. This, with its wild and romantic adjuncts, forms a spectacle of vast and gigantic sublimity. Over the deepest and most awful part of the gulf, where the rocks approach nearest to each other, is a beam of timber, serving for a bridge, which none but the most resolute can pass without horror.

COCKEN HALL, near Lumley Castle, is a deserted seat, much celebrated by travellers, for the variety and picturesque beauty of its scenery. The southern aspect

of the rocks was formerly planted with vines, and other fruit trees.

CROXDALE HALL, one mile from Butteby, occupies a lofty situation near the banks of the Weare, and commands a rich prospect towards the south-west. The pleasure grounds are beautiful, and the adjacent wood and plantations render it a very desirable residence. Round the western extremity of the pleasure grounds, flows a small rivulet, named Croxdale Beck, the channel of which is a romantic dell, so deep and narrow, that the sun's rays are nearly excluded through the whole year, and in the days of superstition it was thought a fit abode for evil spirits.

DURHAM, 260 miles from London, is situated on a singular rocky eminence, rising near the central part of the county, and almost surrounded by the river Weare. Its appearance is unique, and striking; its public edifices exhibiting a considerable degree of grandeur. The present magnificent CATHEDRAL of Durham, is indebted for its origin to Bishop William de Carilepho. The situation of this venerable pile is equally bold and singular. Elevated on a rocky eminence, forming the highest part of the city, it bursts upon the sight with uncommon grandeur; the base of the rocks which support its west end being laved by the waters of the Weare. Many distinguished prelates, and other eminent persons, have been interred in this cathedral. The principal monument now remaining, is that to the memory of Bishop Hatfield. From the cathedral on the north extends the palace, or palace-green, on the north side of which is the castle, now the residence of the bishop, whenever he visits Durham. This structure stands on the continuation of the same rocky eminence on which the cathedral is built, and from its upper apartments, commands some very fine views of the city and surrounding country.

On the west side of the palace-green is the *Exchequer*, a strong square stone building; adjoining it are the bishop's library, and the law courts, where the assizes, sessions, &c., are held. On the opposite side of the green is an hospital, or alms-house, and at each end a school-house.

From the palace-green is an avenue leading to the public walks, called the Banks, which skirt the river.

The new bridge is an elegant structure, besides which are two others, called Framwell-gate bridge, and Elvet bridge. The former was erected by Bishop Flambard, about the year 1120, and is a very excellent piece of masonry. Elvet bridge was built by Bishop Pudsey, and repaired in the time of Bishop Fox. Independently of the cathedral, Durham contains six churches; the principal of which is that dedicated to St. Nicholas, an ancient structure, situated on the south side of the market-place.

The market-place is a small square, having a Guildhall, or Tolbooth, on the west side; a Pant, to supply the inhabitants with water, near the centre; and a Piazza, where the corn-markets, &c., are held, on the south. The Guildhall was originally built by Bishop Tunstall, about the year 1555. In 1791, a small theatre was built by subscription in Sadler-gate; and a subscription library has also been founded. The recreation of the inhabitants is further provided for by a *race-course*. It was not till the year 1673 that the privilege of sending members to parliament was awarded to Durham. The right of election for the city is vested in the mayor, aldermen, and freemen. The number of voters is about 1,000. In a deep vale, near the river, are the ruins of Finchall Abbey, founded in 1196 for Benedictines. On the west of the city is an old cross, erected by Ralph Lord Nevill, in memory of a battle between the English and Scots, wherein the latter were defeated with the loss of 15,000 men, and their king, David II. taken prisoner.

The market is on Saturday, and is well supplied with all kinds of provision. Sea fish are brought from Hartlepool and Sunderland. The fairs are on the 31st of March for cattle: Whit Tuesday for sheep and swine; and on the 15th of September for horses. Each fair continues three days. The number of houses is 1,024—inhabitants 7,530.

EGGLESTON HOUSE, five miles from Barnard Castle, occupies a lofty site on the banks of the river Tees, and is screened from the north by plantations growing on the slope of the hills. The garden is one of the best botanical collections in England, containing upwards of 700 different plants.

FINCHALE PRIORY. These ruins are beautifull

situated in a low vale, bordering the river Wear, which flows in a circular direction beneath the Cliffs of Cocken.

GIBSIDE, near Ravensworth Castle, is the principal seat of Lord Strathmore. This mansion is situated on the east side of the river Derwent, and contains numerous family portraits, besides a few other excellent paintings. The grounds are very extensive. Various beautiful views occur in different parts of the grounds. The park is about four miles in circumference.

GRANGE HALL is pleasantly seated about one mile from Darlington, of which and of the adjacent country it commands some very fine views. The mansion is a modern building, and contains a very extensive museum of natural history and other curiosities. The library is also extremely valuable in topography and antiquity, and contains a great quantity of manuscript information on this county. A small, but valuable, assemblage of paintings is distributed through the different apartments.

GREENCROFT, near Lanchester, a deserted seat occupying an elevated and commanding situation. The grounds are pleasant; and the mansion is a spacious but plain structure, sheltered by plantations.

HARDWICKE, half a mile from Sedgefield, is much celebrated in the north for the beauty of its pleasure-grounds, and the elegance of its ornamental buildings. The mansion is an irregular structure, in which convenience has been more studied than elegance.

HARTLEPOOL is a small town and sea-port, situated on a promontory which forms a very safe and commodious harbour. Its charter was bestowed by King John; and it is governed by a mayor, aldermen, recorder, and common-council. The Town Hall is a handsome building in the centre of the town. Hartlepool has a church, one or two meeting-houses, a charity-school, and a custom-house. The hard mineral spa water at this place proves efficacious in the cure of particular cases. During the summer months, it is much frequented for the purpose of sea-bathing. The town-wall, the pier, the moor, and the sands, form delightful promenades for the company who visit it. On the moor near the town are two batteries, and part of an entrenchment, the town, at a former period, having been strongly fortified. In the vicinity

are coal-works and a flour-mill; and large quantities of lime are annually exported. The inhabitants are principally employed in the fisheries.

A market on Saturday. Fairs, May 14, August 21, October 9, and November 27.

HIGH FORCE, three miles from Wynch bridge, is a sublime cataract, darting its waters over a huge rock of black marble 70 feet high. Above the fall, the river is closely pent up, and swelling, precipitates itself into a reservoir more than 60 feet deep. The noise of the fall may be heard many miles round the country.

HILTON CASTLE, the ancient baronial residence of the Hyltons, is situated in a pleasant vale on the north side of the Wear, about three miles from Wearmouth. It has undergone several important alterations; its present form is that of an oblong square. The central part is evidently the most ancient; the sides are of modern construction; its general appearance is that of a fortified mansion. The interior consists of five stories; the rooms are chiefly small, and exhibit every symptom of neglect, being wholly unfurnished, and in a complete state of decay. The saloon is the only spacious apartment, and was once finely ornamented with representations of various kinds of fish, and other figures.

HOUGHALL, about one mile from Durham, is an ancient manor house, forming part of the prebendal estates of Durham. This building has been surrounded by a moat, and otherwise fortified, and according to authenticated reports, was possessed by Sir Arthur Hazelrigge during the civil wars; and for some time became the residence of Oliver Cromwell.

KEPIER HOSPITAL, on the banks of the Wear, about one mile from Durham, was founded in the year 1112, and endowed for the maintenance of a master and 12 brethren. The only remain of the monastic buildings now standing is the gateway, a strong and not unhandsome piece of masonry, with pointed arches.

LAMBTON HALL, near Lumley Castle, is seated on an elevated situation on the north bank of the Wear. The hall is a modern building, erected by Bononi, but displays considerable incongruities both in its design and execution. The library is a well-proportioned quadrangular apart-

ment, with a neat gallery going round it; besides a good selection of authors, it is furnished with a few family paintings. The grounds are pleasant; and the ride through a hanging wood on the southern bank of the Wear extremely beautiful.

LUMLEY CASTLE, a mile from Chester-le-Street, is one of the seats of the Earl of Scarborough; it stands majestically on a fine elevated situation. This stately mansion forms a quadrangle, with an area in the centre. The whole is composed of a yellow free-stone, which gives a bright and beautiful tint at a distance. The chief entrance to the castle is at the west front, by a noble double flight of steps, and a platform filling the whole space between the towers. The eastern front retains its ancient form, and has a most august appearance; its projecting gateway commanded by turrets, and machicolated gallery is bold and stately. The great hall measures 90 feet in length, and is ornamented with a gallery for minstrelsy, and exhibits a striking feature of ancient times, feudal performances, and old English manners.

NEWTON HALL stands on a lofty site, between one and two miles south of Finchale. The mansion is a modern plain edifice, sheltered by plantations, and commanding a very fine prospect of the city and cathedral of Durham.

RABY CASTLE, the magnificent seat of Earl Darlington, is situated about one mile north from Staindrop, on the east side of an extensive park. The general effect of the castle is uncommonly imposing; and its extent, grandeur, and preservation, are powerfully calculated to impress the mind with a vivid idea of the magnificence of the feudal ages. The situation of Raby Castle is extremely fine, though not lofty; it occupies a rising ground, with a rocky foundation, and is surrounded with an embrasured wall and parapet, inclosing two acres of land. The interior of the castle is distributed into a great number of apartments; many of them handsomely fitted up. The entrance-hall is uncommonly grand. The park, pleasure-grounds, and plantations of Raby accord with the extent and dignity of the castle. Many parts command very beautiful and extensive prospects.

RAVENSWORTH CASTLE, is about one mile west

of the river Team, from which the ground gently rises to a considerable extent, the present mansion occupies part of the site of an ancient castle. The saloon is spacious; but the apartments are generally small; on the north and west it is sheltered by a fine forest of oaks; to the east it commands a pleasant view over Lamesley vale, and immediately opposite in the distance is Gateshead-fell, wild and shaken, yet covered with a multitude of rude hovels, inhabited by the families of the quarriers and pit-men.

SELLABY HALL, is a beautiful villa of free-stone and blue slate, rebuilt by Earl Darlington. The grounds are disposed with great taste and judgment, and afford a singular diversity of pleasing views, the stables are well arranged, lofty and embattled. The views on leaving the high road at Grandbank, on the way to Sellaby, are uncommonly rich and extensive.

SHINCLIFFE HALL, one mile from Durham, is sheltered by a beautiful amphitheatre of hanging woods, excepting towards the south-west, which opens upon the river Wear, and a rich expanse of meadows.

SHIPLEY HOUSE, now belonging to Earl Strathmore, was a hunting seat of James II., and extremely well chosen for the purpose, as the neighbourhood abounds with foxes. Its celebrity is still great, and Earl Darlington, who has some of the best hounds in England, frequently resorts hither.

SHIELDS (SOUTH), situated on the banks of the Tyne, opposite North Shields, like that place, enjoys all the advantages of trade, and commerce in common with Newcastle, particularly in the coal trade: a great number of trading vessels are built here, and it is noted also for its extensive salt and glass works. The town principally consists of one long narrow crooked street, nearly two miles in length; and is deservedly celebrated for having established the first of those laudable societies, instituted "for the preservation of sailors from shipwreck, by means of the life-boat."—The number of houses is 1,260; inhabitants 8,108.

STANHOPE HALL, six miles from Woisingham, is a spacious old building, formerly the mansion-house of the ancient family of Featherstonhaugh. The *park* is a

large tract of elevated ground, belonging to the see of Durham, and the hills on the opposite side of the river, are regarded by historians, as the places where the armies, of Edward III., and of Douglas, the Scotch chieftain were encamped 15 days in sight of each other, without coming to a decisive engagement. It was in this park the Bishop of Durham anciently held his great forest hunts; the tenants being obliged to erect a tabernacle, to furnish the necessaries for him and his suit, to maintain his dogs, &c. The circumference of the park is upwards of 12 miles.

STOCKTON, 248 miles from London, is a borough and probably the most handsome town, in the north of England, as well for the breadth of its principal street, as for the great neatness of its buildings. The town-hall is a large square building, partly occupied as a tavern, and contains a handsome suit of assembly rooms, and various other apartments, court room, &c. At a small distance is a handsome column, 33 feet high, of the Doric order, where the market is held, and which stands on the spot formerly occupied by an open cross. Below this are the *shambles*, which, though neat in themselves, detract considerably from the noble appearance of the street. The church is a handsome brick fabric, the doors and windows cased with stone, and the roof covered with Westmorland slate. Stockton consists of two parts, one called the borough, in which the land is all freehold; the other denominated the town, where it is copy or lease-hold. The civil government is vested in a mayor, aldermen, and recorder, besides inferior officers. The principal manufactures of Stockton are sail-cloth and ropes, for government and the merchant service. Here is also a manufactory of damasks, diapers, huckabacks, towelling, checked linens, &c. Two docks for ship-building are likewise situated on the banks of the Tees, where ships are built much cheaper, and better than at many other sea-ports. An elegant bridge of five arches was erected over the Tees, below the town, between the years 1764 and 1771, at the expense of £8,000.

A Salmon Fishery to some extent is carried on in the Tees, near Stockton; and near the mouth of the river is a fishery for cockles.

The markets are on Wednesday and Saturday, and are well supplied with corn, coals, provisions, and vegetables; the number of houses 527; inhabitants 4,009.

STREATLAM CASTLE, belonging to Earl Strathmore, stands in a secluded but romantic vale, surrounded by high and irregular hills, nearly three miles westward from Raby Castle. The present mansion was erected on the foundation of the old castle, at the beginning of the last century and several of the apartments are retained in it; but the general arrangement is very different, the park displays some rich natural scenery, and is stocked with fine deer; it has lately been considerably enlarged by Lord Strathmore, who has re-united the Stainton estate, by purchase. The great oaken stairs in the present mansion, were added by Andrew Robinson Stoney Bowes, Esq., who was closely besieged here for some days, after he had stolen Lady Strathmore, from London.

SUNDERLAND. Vide Bishop Wearmouth.

WALWORTH HALL, near Denton, was anciently the seat of the Nevills. Thomas Jennison, Esq., who was Auditor-General, to Queen Elizabeth, made great improvements here, and erected a manor-house in the ornamental style of that age; the south front, is flanked by circular turrets, and the windows are decorated with painted glass, displaying the arms of the then knights of the garter.

WINDLESTON, two miles from Bishop Auckland, has been the seat of the Eden family, since the time of Queen Elizabeth. The mansion is situated on a gentle ascent, with an eastern aspect, and contains a small though valuable collection of antiquities.

WINYARD, near Butterwick. This mansion has been rebuilt on the old foundation, and now forms an elegant residence. The walks and pleasure grounds are extremely pleasant, and by the judicious intermixture of wood and water, the scenery, from some points of view, is uncommonly attractive.

WITTON CASTLE, two miles from Durham, formerly an embattled mansion, on the south banks of the Wear, was burnt down while undergoing a thorough repair; the present mansion is a handsome, and convenient dwelling.

ESSEX.

Length 54 miles. Breadth 48. Circumference 200—1,525 square miles. 976,000 square acres. 19 hundreds. 27 market towns. 404 parishes. 44,096 houses. 260,900 persons.—Diocese of London—Home Circuit—8 Members to Parliament—960 Militia Men.

BOUNDARIES.—On the north lie the counties of Suffolk and Cambridge, on the west those of Hertford and Middlesex; on the south flows the river Thames, and on the east the German ocean. This county contains about 380,000 acres in tillage, and about 820,000 acres in pasturage, the remainder is waste. The middle of the county is varied with inequalities of surface, and sprinkled with woods. Towards the sea-shore, in the hundreds of Essex, the inhabitants are much subject to agues; the northern part is elevated, and tolerably healthy. The whole county is well stored with provision, and vast numbers of cattle are sent to the London market. The sea and rivers abound with excellent fish. From its vicinity to the metropolis this county is much frequented by the opulent merchants and traders of London, who have erected many handsome country seats. In the early period of the English history, the whole, or the greater part, of Essex is supposed to have been an extensive forest; for in the reigns of Stephen and John, large tracts of this county were disafforested.

SOIL.—Almost every description of soil is to be found in Essex, from the most stubborn to the mildest loam. The north-west side is characterized by a chalky substratum; but the east and south sides abound with marshy and boggy land, having abundance of gravel intermixed; the south-west part chiefly consists of Epping Forest, and its several branches. Few counties have less minerals than Essex, which is also nearly exempt from quarries or any mass of rocks.

AGRICULTURE.—From the variety of soil in this county, it is impossible to preserve a uniform system of farming. The surface is generally level; and the greater part is enclosed, and rendered highly productive. The principal productions are wheat, barley, oats, beans, pease, tur-

nips, tares, rape, mustard, rye-grass, and trefoil. Many acres are also appropriated to the cultivation of hops, carraway, coriander, teasel, and various horticultural plants and roots. Though Essex is not highly celebrated for its *dairies*, yet those in the parish of Epping and its vicinity are famous for the richness of their cream and butter. The latter article is mostly sent to London, where it bears a high character and price. The county is proverbially distinguished for its calves. Potatoes are cultivated to considerable extent, in different parts of the county; and cabbages, though lately introduced as food for cattle, are now raised in great abundance, and are esteemed a good succedaneum for turnips.

MANUFACTURES in this county, at the present period, are of small comparative importance. Though the eastern counties are recorded to have been the first places inhabited by the woollen manufacturers, who purposely came from the continent to work up the English wool; yet Essex seems not to have acquired any peculiar branch of manufacture till the persecutions in the Low Countries, under the Duke of Alva, compelled many artizans to flee to England. Some of these settling at Colchester, commenced a manufacture of baize; this flourished considerably, and soon extended its influence to several neighbouring places, and then many of the poor inhabitants became initiated in the arts of weaving, spinning, and dressing of wool.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers of this county are, the Colne, the Black-water or Pant, the Chelmer, the Crouch, the Ingerbourn, the Roding, and the Cam. Besides these, Essex partakes of other rivers, which serve as natural boundaries, and irrigate and fertilize its land. These are the Thames, the Lea, the Stort, and the Stour.

The COLNE rises in the parish of Ridgewell, passes Castle Hedingham, Halstead, and Colchester, expanding into a wide estuary, and is navigable from the sea to within two miles of Colchester.

The BLACK-WATER, called also the Pant, has its source near Debden, on the borders of Cambridgeshire, and with a constantly meandering course, passes through Bocking and Coggeshall: near Witham it receives another stream,

unites with the Chelmer a little below Malden, and then joins the waters of the ocean. Here it forms an extensive estuary, and at high tides the waters inundate a large tract of country.

The CHELMER has its original spring near Thaxtead, passes near the town and priory of Dunmow, and at Chelmsford receives some other streams. It now takes a north-easterly direction, and flowing through a pleasant valley, receives several tributary brooks, and joins the Black-water near Malden.

The CROUCH and INGERBOURN are small rivers, which rise in the southern side of the county, and slowly pass through a short course to the Thames. The *Roding*, a small stream, has a circuitous course in visiting Ongar, and several villages in its progress to Wanstead, Ilford, and Barking. It is made navigable to Ilford bridge.

The CAM takes a different direction to any of the former, and rising at three springs near Newport, passes Audley-end, Chesterton, &c., and pursues a northern course to Cambridgeshire.

The LEA and the STORT constitute the western boundary of the county, separating it from Middlesex and Hertfordshire; and the Stour divides it from the county of Suffolk to the north. Numerous other smaller streams have their rise in Essex, and fall either into the Thames or the ocean. Some of the estuaries and creeks are celebrated for their oysters.

Remarkable Places.

AUDLEY HOUSE is situated in a finely wooded park, about one mile from Saffron Walden. The present mansion, though a large and magnificent structure, consists only of a small part of the original building. In its pristine and perfect state, it was justly ranked among the most splendid and capacious mansions of this county. The western, or grand entrance front of the present mansion, is ornamented with two uniform projecting porches, each having seventeen marble columns at the angles. The various apartments were furnished and decorated in a costly and elegant style, by the late Lord Howard, who employed different artists to render the interior highly splendid. The grounds at Audley-end are pleasingly diversi-

fied with hill and dale; the summits and sides of the former are richly adorned with wood; the latter is enlivened with the clear water of the river Granta, which forms a wide canal in front of the house.

BARRINGTON HALL, near Hatfield Regis, is a spacious brick mansion; the long room on the ground floor measures 100 feet in length, and 20 in breadth; the ceiling is ornamented with stucco-work, and supported on large columns.

BASSINGBOURNE HALL is a large and handsome modern building, which commands a fine view of the adjacent country: the front is very elegant.

BATHORNE HOUSE, was erected in 1688; but was modernized, and much improved, in the year 1801; it stands in a large park, partly disposed into pleasure grounds.

BELL HOUSE, in the parish of Alvele, is a spacious edifice standing in a pleasant park, about three miles in circumference, and abounding with fine oaks, and other trees. The mansion was built in the reign of Henry VIII., but was altered and greatly improved, by the late Lord Dacre. The decorations are extremely neat.

BELCHAMP HALL, situated in the parish of Belchamp-Walter: the present mansion is a substantial and commodious building; it stands in a pleasant lawn, sloping gently to a small river, that flows within about 200 yards from the front; on the south is an extensive and spacious terrace, skirted with lofty trees, and terminated at one end, by an ancient building, ornamented with some painted glass; at the other end is a lofty mount, having another ornamental building on its summit. This mansion contains a collection of pictures, by some of the most esteemed masters.

BOWER HALL: the mansion is a handsome and convenient building, pleasantly situated in a small park, with contiguous gardens.

BRADWELL LODGE, is situated nearly centrically, between the rivers Blackwater, Crouch and Colne, which here unite with the German ocean: the lodge is a very elegant building; on the summit is a beautiful observatory, decorated with Ionic columns; which have

been ingeniously contrived to form the chimneys of the whole fabric.

BRAXTED LODGE, near Witham, is a handsome mansion pleasantly situated on a gentle eminence, near the centre of a small park, and commanding some agreeable prospects of the surrounding country.

BYCKNACRE PRIORY, now in ruins, was founded for Black Canons, by Fitz. Geffery, sheriff of Essex, in the reign of Henry II.

CHELMSFORD, 29 miles from London, is the shire-town, pleasantly situated near the centre of the county, at the confluence of the rivers Chelmer and Cann. It is formed by four streets, near the centre is the *shire-hall*, an elegant, commodious, and well-designed structure.

The church is a spacious and handsome building, dedicated to St. Mary. In this town is a free grammar-school, founded, and liberally endowed, in the year 1552, by Edward VI. There are two other charity-schools. The *county gaol* is a spacious and well arranged stone building. On Gallywood common, near Chelmsford, is a *race course*, on which three plates are run for annually. The support of the labouring classes is chiefly derived from the general business of the county, and from the multitude of passengers and carriers who take this road to the metropolis. The country surrounding Chelmsford is extremely pleasant and fertile.

The market is on Friday. The fairs on May 1, and November 1. The number of houses 882; inhabitants 4,649.

CLABERRY HALL is situated a small distance from Woodford Bridge, on a high spot of ground, commanding some fine prospects of forest scenery and grazing land. The grounds have been improved and greatly enlarged. The house is a neat modern building, with a projecting portico in front. The park abounds with fine timber.

COLCHESTER, 51 miles from London. There are more Roman remains in and about this town than in any other part of South Britain. Immense quantities of Roman bricks and tiles are to be seen incorporated, or rather are the chief materials in all the most ancient and public edifices. The town-walls, the castle, and the churches, are half built with them; and in several parts even the

Roman workmanship is copied. On an elevated spot to the north of the High-street, and commanding a fine view of the winding valley to the north and east, stands the castle. The outer walls are nearly perfect, and by their vast thickness and solidity evince the importance that in former ages was attached to this situation. The town and suburbs of Colchester comprehend 12 parishes, of which eight are within the walls; but some of the churches are destroyed. The remainder, with the ruins of St. John's Abbey, St. Botolph's Priory, and the Moot Hall, constitute the chief of the ancient and public buildings. The ruins of the priory church are extremely interesting to the architectural antiquary, from presenting some curious specimens of brick ornaments, and of interlaced arches. It has a free-school, several charity-schools, and various meeting-houses. The corporate officers consist of a mayor, recorder, town-clerk, 12 aldermen, 18 assistants, 18 common councilmen, and inferior servants. The right of returning the members to parliament is vested in the corporation and free burgesses not receiving alms; the number of voters is about 1,400. A considerable portion of the trade of this town arises from the oyster fishery, Colchester oysters having been long celebrated for their superior flavour. Number of houses 2,192; inhabitants 12,544.

COLNE PARK, near Coggeshall. The mansion is a handsome building of white brick, erected in 1775, and stands on a rising ground, surrounded with woods and plantations. North from the mansion is a column of Portland stone of the Ionic order. This demesne includes about 110 acres.

COPPED HALL, near Epping, is justly ranked among the greatest ornaments of this county. Its grounds are boldly irregular, and have been highly improved by numerous groves and plantations, which crown the eminences, and sweep over the sides of the hills. The house is a neat white brick building, standing on a knoll, near the centre of a large park.

EASTON LODGE, near Dunmow, the venerable seat of Charles, Viscount Maynard, is pleasantly situated on high ground, in a spacious park, about two miles north-

west from Dunmow. From the large projecting windows and other peculiarities of the building, it seems to have been erected about the latter end of the reign of Queen Elizabeth. The grounds are pleasant, and ornamented with canals, shrubberies, &c.

EASTBURY HOUSE, about one mile from Barking, is an ancient and very spacious brick edifice, having octagonal towers, and curiously ornamented chimneys; some of the rooms are painted with fresco.

FAIRLOP OAK is a very noble tree, and lately considerable attention has been employed to preserve it; the extremities of the decayed branches having been sawn off, and Mr. Forsyth's composition applied to keep it from further decay; the stem is rough and fluted, and measures about 36 feet in girth; the branches overspread an area nearly 300 feet in circumference. Round this oak, on the first Friday in July, a yearly fair is held; the stalls, &c., extend in a circle round it; and in fine weather, the fair is attended by a considerable multitude.

FAULKBOURNE HALL, one mile from Witham. The mansion is a stately and spacious building, of different eras; part of it displays a tower, gateway, and curious architecture, and is supposed to have been erected by the Earl of Gloucester, about the time of King Stephen, or Henry II.; many improvements have been made in the house and grounds. Several of the apartments contain good paintings, by Vandycke, Vandevelde, Michael Angelo, Sir William Beechey, Sartorius, and other masters. Many fine springs rise in the grounds, which are extensive and pleasant; here also is a cedar tree, conjectured to be the largest in the kingdom.

FITZ-WALTERS, vulgarly called the Round House, in the parish of Shenfield. The mansion has a very singular appearance, its form being nearly octangular, with the chimneys rising in the centre.

GEDDY HALL, about one mile east from Romford, is a large square brick building, now uninhabited. In 1568, the famous Sir Anthony Cook entertained Queen Elizabeth in the old mansion. Mary de Medicis, mother of Queen Henrietta Maria, was also entertained here the night before her arrival in London, in 1638. The old

building was taken down when the new house was erected. The grounds, together with the house, are now suffering from neglect.

GOSFIELD HALL, near Braintree, though greatly altered, presents an interesting specimen of the domestic architecture that prevailed in the residences of the nobility during the reign of Henry VII.

The principal paintings that were in this mansion have been removed to Stowe; a few good pictures still remain in the breakfast room; and, in the dining room, are many valuable original portraits.

The park, at Gosfield, is extensive, and contains many fine old trees; it is also ornamented by a noble sheet of water.

GREENSTED, near Ongar, has become much celebrated for its church, which is considered by some of the best antiquaries, as one of the most singular and ancient in Great Britain; as far, at least, as regards the body or nave. This is entirely composed of wood, the sides being formed of the trunks of large chesnut trees, split or sawn asunder.

GREENSTED HALL is a neat modern structure, situated near the church.

HADLEIGH CASTLE is situated on the brow of a steep hill, commanding a fine prospect over the estuary of the Thames into Kent. Though now almost a mass of ruins, and overrun with shrubs and brushwood, it exhibits strong traces of ancient grandeur. The principal parts now standing, are two towers at the south-east and north-east angles.

HARSTED HALL, in Birdbrook parish, is distinguished as containing some of the finest oaks in the county.

HARE HALL is built with Portland stone, and consists of a centre and two wings, connected by a colonnade. The interior is fitted up in a handsome manner, and in the small drawing-room are a few pictures, by Angelica Kauffman, and other artists; the large drawing room extends the whole length of the house, and commands some diversified and pleasant views. In a sequestered spot, part of a petrified tree is preserved, which was brought from the Isle of Portland.

HARWICH, 72 miles from London, a populous market and sea-port town, consists of three principal streets, and various lanes branching off in different directions. The church, or rather chapel, is dedicated to St. Nicholas, and was founded about the commencement of the thirteenth century, by Roger Bigod, Earl of Norfolk. The other principal buildings are the town-hall, the gaol, the school-house, and the custom-house. The harbour is deep and spacious, and the anchorage good. For the safe guidance of vessels into the harbour, a light-house has been erected on a hill below the town.

Harwich was the usual place of embarkation and landing of William III., and the Georges I. and II., on their respective journeys to and from the Continent. Her late Majesty also landed here on her first entrance into the kingdom. During the proper season, Harwich is visited by much company, who flock hither for the purpose of sea-bathing. The accommodations are respectable, though not equal to those at the more fashionable places of resort. There are numerous bathing machines, and the private baths are very neat and convenient. In two of the baths the sea-water is made hot for the use of invalids. There is also a steam or vapour bath. The scenery on the Orwell is extremely pleasant, its banks being studded with elegant villas and pleasure grounds; opposite to Harwich is a very strong fortification called *Languard Fort*, erected for the defence of the harbour, by James I. Number of houses, 579. Inhabitants, 3,732.

HAVERING BOWER, three miles from Romford. Here are some remains of the walls of an ancient palace, reported to have been built or improved by Edward the Confessor, and afterwards occasionally inhabited by several kings. Its situation was uncommonly fine; the site commanding several extensive prospects over parts of Essex, Hertfordshire, Kent, Middlesex, and Surry, as well as of the river Thames. Havering Park contains about 1,000 acres, and is now let on lease from the crown. Near the site of the bower house is an elegant villa.

HEDINGHAM CASTLE, stands near the village of Hedingham, on an eminence. In its original state it covered a much larger area than at present; but the keep, from the great strength and solidity of its walls, has alone

resisted the ravages of time. Its architecture is of the pure Anglo-Norman style; its shape is nearly square, and its height is rather more than 100 feet. The materials of which it is composed are irregular flints and stones, embedded in grout, or fluid mortar. The whole outside is cased with squared stone, laid with great neatness and regularity.

LANGDON HILLS, near Horndon, the most considerable eminences in this part of the country, afford some extremely fine and extensive prospects. The whole vale of London, the river Thames, the Metropolis, and the hills and coast of Kent, as far as the Medway, are, in clear weather, displayed to the view, and compose a scene of almost unequalled beauty. On the north, the ground is higher, but the prospects more confined.

LAYER-MARNEY-HALL, six miles from Colchester, was originally a very large and spacious building, enclosing a quadrangular court, the chief entrance to which was the tower gateway; which now remains; this is built of brick, and consists of a lofty centre of two stories, flanked at each angle, by an octagonal tower, each containing eight floors, lighted by small pointed windows. The summit, chimneys, and divisions, between the windows are curiously ornamented with sculptured mouldings of various patterns. Attached to the east and west sides of this gateway, are considerable remains of the old mansion, now converted into a farm-house and offices.

LOUGHTON HALL, four miles from Epping, is a large irregular building, occupying a pleasant situation, and surrounded by beautiful prospects; the adjacent country is scattered with numerous seats and villages. Hither the Princess of Denmark, afterwards Queen Ann, is reported to have retired from the court of her father, James II., when she saw him pursuing the arbitrary measures which terminated in his expulsion from the throne.

MARKS HALL, two miles from Romford, now falling into decay, is a very ancient fabric, forming a quadrangle. The foundations are of brick, but the superstructure is of timber and plaster. At two opposite angles is a square brick tower embattled. The whole building is surrounded by a moat, the water standing close to the walls. This mansion has been uninhabited many years.

NEW HALL, in the parish of Roreham, was a spacious mansion, of which a large portion is now standing. It was adorned and improved by Henry VIII., who was so charmed with the situation that he erected it into an *Honor*, and gave it the name of Beaulieu, making it a place of frequent residence; and here, in 1524, he kept the feast of St. George. His daughter, princess Mary, also resided here for several years. New Hall was purchased by Oliver Cromwell for the sum of *five shillings*, though its annual value was then computed at 1,309*l.* 12*s.* $3\frac{3}{4}d.$ Cromwell retained possession but a short period; for being more pleased with the situation of Hampton Court, he gave a sum of money and New Hall in exchange for it. This building in its most flourishing state was one of the largest in the kingdom, and consisted of two quadrangles, enclosing large courts. In the park now standing is the great hall, a spacious and grand apartment, measuring 96 feet in length, 50 wide, and 40 high; it has been converted into a chapel, and laid out in a very judicious manner. In the splendid chapel belonging to this mansion, which was taken down between 60 and 70 years ago, was first erected the magnicent painted window now in St. Margaret's Church, Westminster.

SOUTHEND, 42 miles from London, is a small village, pleasantly situated on an acclivity of a well-wooded hill, at the mouth of the Thames, nearly opposite Sheerness. Within the last few years it has obtained some repute as a bathing place; and, though previously but little known, has been since advancing to importance. An assembly room has been erected for the use of visiters, as well as a row of respectable houses for lodgings, and a new theatre.

ST. OSYTH, 10 miles from Colchester. Here are the remains of Bishop de Belmeis' foundation. The quadrangle is almost entire except part of the north side, occupied by some modern apartments. The entrance is by a beautiful gateway of hewn stone, with flint. Among the ivy-grown ruins in the gardens is a pier, with a modern inscription in Latin, expressing the ancient magnificence of the place.

TILBURY FORT, opposite Gravesend, was originally built as a kind of block-house by Henry VIII., but en-

larged into a regular fortification by Charles II., after the Dutch fleet had sailed up the river in the year 1667, and burnt three English men-of-war at Chatham. Various additions have been since made, and it is now mounted with a great number of guns, and strongly garrisoned. At West Tilbury, about two miles from Tilbury Fort, are to be seen some traces of the camp formed here in 1588, when the Spanish Armada threatened the coast, and when Queen Elizabeth made a spirited address to her army.

UPMINSTER HALL, 16 miles from London, was a mansion of the Abbots of Waltham, who had a chapel and a cemetery here. It is built with timber, and commands some fine prospects over Essex and Kent. The grounds are well wooded.

VALENTINES. Here are some handsome pictures, particularly the original of Southwark Fair by Hogarth; and some fine carving by Gibbons. In the hot-house is a remarkable vine of the black Hamburgh sort, which was planted in April, 1758, and produces from 300 weight of fruit to 400 and a quarter annually. The stem is about 14 inches in girth, and the branches extend 200 feet. The profits on the grapes have, in some years, been supposed to amount to 300*l*. In the gardens is a tulip tree, upwards of $4\frac{1}{4}$ feet in girth, and about 80 feet high.

WALDEN, or SAFFRON WALDEN, 42 miles from London, was made a corporate town by Edward VI., in the year 1549. Its government is vested in a mayor, 12 aldermen; a recorder, town-clerk, &c., by whom the police is now regulated. The church, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, is a spacious and most elegant pile of English architecture, chiefly of the age of the Henrys VII. and VIII. Walpole considered it one of the lightest and most beautiful parish-churches in England. This fabric was thoroughly repaired in the years 1791, 2, and 3. The altar-piece is a painting by the Rev. Mr. Peters, copied from Corregio. Many monumental inscriptions appear in different parts of this fabric; the height of which is 190 feet, and the breadth 90. The interior is particularly neat and uniform.

At the south-west end of the town are some *alms*-houses founded in the reign of Edward VI. Here is also a free-school of ancient foundation.

The market is on Saturday. The fairs on Saturday before Midlent, and November 1. Number of houses 686; inhabitants 3,403.

WANSTEAD HOUSE, on Epping Forest, is a very large and magnificent structure, standing in an extensive park, and surrounded with gardens and pleasure-grounds. The prospects from several of the apartments are extremely beautiful, and include a very extensive part of the surrounding country. It is one of the noblest houses not only in England but in Europe: and its grand front is considered as fine a piece of architecture as any in Italy. From the entrance to the park, on the west, the road to the house is skirted on each side with fine elms, and winds round a circular piece of water, extending considerably beyond each extremity of the mansion, which, from this approach, has an aspect of much grandeur. In the garden there are extensive fish-ponds, and a curious grotto.

WHITLEY has been greatly embellished and improved by various plantations, and by laying out the grounds in an ornamental style. A screen of firs and forest trees, combined with sycamores, chesnuts, larches, &c., extends from the house to a small hill, planted with cedars, cypresses, and laurels. The prospect hence, commanding some fine scenery, is enlivened by the grand embattled castle of Hedingham, and the churches of Toppesfield, Ridgwell, and Birdbrook. At a short distance is a wood of about seven acres, laid out in pleasant walks, and ornamented with various seats and buildings. The flower-garden comprises a rich and choice assemblage of exotic shrubs and flowers, besides a collection of rare English plants.

WOODFORD, 8½ miles from London, is a large village, consisting principally of neat and respectable houses, mostly occupied by merchants and tradesmen of London. In the church-yard is a remarkable yew-tree; its girth at three feet from the ground is 11 feet, nine inches; at four feet and a-half from the ground, 14 feet three inches; the spread of its boughs forms a circumference of about 180 feet. Number of houses 313; inhabitants 2,056.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Length 60 miles. Breadth 26. Square miles 1,122. Square acres 718,080. Hundreds 27. Market towns 25. Parishes 335. Houses 5,820. Persons 295,100.—Diocese of Gloucester.—Oxford Circuit.—Members to parliament 8. Militia Men 960.

BOUNDARIES.—This county is bounded by Herefordshire on the north-west; on the east by Oxfordshire, and a small part of Berkshire; on the north by Wiltshire; and on the west by a part of Somersetshire, the Bristol channel, and Monmouthshire.

The general aspect of Gloucestershire is greatly diversified, being divided into three districts of a very dissimilar character, the hill, the vale, and the forest.

The hill district is the Cotswold, and the Stroudwater hills. The vale district includes the vales of Evesham, Gloucester, and Berkeley. The forest district is principally comprehended by the *forest of Dean.*

The Cotswold district is by far the widest, and consists of a long tract of high ground, for the most part bleak and bare, though it affords in many places a short fine grass, which makes excellent sheep feed. The forest district, which is the smallest of the three, is diversified with hill and dale, and chiefly occupied by the forest of Deane, once the chief support of the English navy, but now mostly cleared and brought into cultivation: it contains several populous villages, though a few solitary deer still continue to run wild in its recesses. The forests of Deane and Kingswood, abound with mines of iron and coal, and in the neighbourhood are several capital iron-works. The vale and forest of Deane are well stocked with orchards, which produce excellent cider. There are marks of ancient camps to be traced in this county, and the Fossway runs through it from Campden by Cirencester to Bath. The landed interest of Gloucestershire lies between the Berkeley and Beaufort families.

The extent of the *Cotswold Hills* is estimated to contain nearly 200,000 acres. The surface is billowy, and the

climate, considering the natural elevation of the land, unusually mild. The sides of the hills abound with springs, and almost every dip has its rill, and every valley its brook. The soil is generally a calcareous loam, mostly mixed with gravel and small sand; it however varies considerably. The average depth of the soil is not more than five inches; the subsoil is a calcareous rubble. Stone of different kinds is almost every where found near the surface. The *Stroudwater Hills* partake both of the Cotswold and the vale character; the southern extremity is the most various in soil and surface. The soil on the hills is principally a light loam. In the vales of *Evesham* and *Gloucester* the soil is mostly a deep rich loam, but varies in many places to the light and sandy kinds; the subsoil is generally very retentive of water. In the vale of Berkeley, the soil is uniformly rich; in the more level parts the soil is a deep fat loam, exceedingly fertile, excepting on the north of Berkeley, where it is clayey and less productive.

AGRICULTURE. The improvements made in the district called the Cotswold Hills, are very great. The Downs, formerly open and producing little else than furze and a scanty covering of grass, are, with few exceptions, enclosed and converted into tillage; corn, turnips, and cultivated herbage, occupy perhaps nine-tenths of its surface. Some little *sheep-walk* and *cow-down* still remain. The estates are principally large, the landed property being in few hands; the tenures are mostly fee-simple. The size of the farms varies from 200 to 1,000 acres. The larger farms are generally on leases of 7, 14, and 21 years. The primary object of the Cotswold husbandry is sheep; cattle is secondary, and comparatively few in number; horses and swine are kept merely for the use of the farm. The manures chiefly used, are ashes produced by sod-burning, dung, and the produce of the sheep-fold. The principal of the cultivated herbage is saintfoin. In the ordinary course of husbandry, the ground is never ploughed more than once, excepting for turnips. The enclosures are chiefly stone walls. In the vales of Evesham, Gloucester, and Berkeley, the characteristic features are nearly the same; if there be a difference, it is probably in favour of the vale of Berkeley, the fertility of which is very great,

and its produce abundant. In the *vales of Gloucester and Evesham*, a very considerable portion of the land belongs to the church, and is mostly let on leases for lives. In many townships the land still lies open. The plantations consist wholly of fruit trees. The farms are in general small, hardly any exceeding 300 acres. The land is appropriated to arable, meadow, and pasture, the chief objects of the husbandry being the growth of corn, breeding and fattening, and the making of cheese. The old system of farming has been superseded by the modern practice. Marl, dung, and slightly calcareous clays are used as manure; in some few places the dung is mixed with mould. The cattle of this district are of various species, and very numerous. The dairies are not very large, and the chief objects are cheese, calves, milk-butter, whey-butter, and swine; of these the cheese is the principal. Gloucestershire cheese has been long celebrated. The principal cheese fair is at Gloucester. The butter also is of superior quality. The farm buildings are chiefly of timber. In the *vale of Berkeley* the land is principally appropriated to grass; and with the exception of some common fields in one part, there is scarcely 1,000 acres of arable land in the district. The rents are low, but the farms are chiefly held at will, varying from 2 to 400*l*. per annum. The dairies are about the same value as those in the vale of Gloucester. The cheese is of superior quality, and the kind called *double Gloucester* is chiefly made here. The quantity of cheese made in this district is estimated from 1,000 to 1,200 tons annually. The annual produce of the milk from each cow, is about 340lbs.

MANUFACTURES are chiefly confined to woollen cloths; the principal are superfine or Spanish broad cloth, very fine single and double-milled casimeres, rateens, white cloth for the army, and second or coarse cloths of various kinds, not only for home consumption, but for exportation. The principal manufacturing district is in the vicinity of Stroud. The cloth manufactured there is mostly dyed in the piece; of late years, however, several manufacturers have introduced the practice of dyeing the wool before it is spun; cloth, a blue on one side, and scarlet on the other, is dyed for the use of the eastern nations. The

grig-mill, preen, perpetual shearing-frame, and other machinery for dressing cloth, are in general use.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers connected with Gloucestershire are the Severn, the Frome, the Wye, and the Isis or Thames. The *Canals* that intersect the county are distinguished by the names of the Thames and Severn, the Stroudwater, the Berkeley, and the Hereford and Gloucester.

The SEVERN enters Gloucestershire near the ancient town of Tewksbury, where, uniting its waters with the Upper Avon, it traverses a wide vale, rich in pasturage, and in some places abundantly wooded. About one mile above Gloucester, it divides into two streams, these reuniting a little below the city, form the tract of land called Alney Island. The Severn, studded with sails, and gliding between a range of fine pastures and villages, gradually widens, till it receives the Wye and the Avon, whose united waters form the Bristol channel.

The FROME flows by Stroud, through Stonehouse and Easington, and joins the Severn at Framilode.

The AVON has little connexion with this county, dividing a small part of it from Warwickshire, and another small portion from Worcestershire.

The WYE separates part of this county from Monmouthshire and Herefordshire, and forms the grand natural western boundary to the forest of Dean, whose nobly-wooded eminences constitute many fine features on its meandering banks.

The THAMES, the most important of the British rivers, has its source in this county; its course, however, is very short before it enters Wiltshire.

Remarkable Places.

ADLESTROP.—The mansion is a very ancient building, but has been much improved. The pleasure grounds have been laid out by Repton, and the natural beauties of the situation displayed according to the modern system of landscape gardening.

BARNSLEY PARK, about two miles west of Bibury, The mansion is a sumptuous edifice, in the high Italian style. The saloon is magnificently decorated with fresco

paintings, by the best masters. The park is about three miles in circumference, and contains some extensive plantations. The ancient manor-house and residence of the Bourchiers, stands near the middle of the village, but is much dilapidated.

BADMINTON HOUSE, about six miles from Chipping Sodbury, the family residence of the Dukes of Beaufort, is situated in a noble park, nearly nine miles in circumference, and through which various avenues have been formed. In the hall is a large sarcophagus of Roman sculpture, representing a bacchanalian procession, given to Henry, the third duke of Beaufort, by cardinal Alberoni. By that nobleman, who died young, in 1745, many curious and original paintings were procured during his residence in Italy, and now ornament the collection at Badmington. The church, built in 1785, stands at the south-east angle of the mansion, and is singularly elegant.

BARRINGTON HALL, five miles from Burford, is an elegant structure, of the Doric order, situated on a pleasant eminence, at a short distance from the banks of the Windrush. The grounds are judiciously disposed, so as to furnish a good specimen of the *ferme ornée*. The park is about three miles in circumference, and well planted.

BEACON HILL is a very bold promontory. The surrounding prospects from this ridge are uncommonly fine, and include a very large proportion of the whole county.

BERKELEY CASTLE, the ancient baronial residence of this family appears to have been founded by Roger de Berkeley soon after the Conquest, but owes some portion of its present form to Henry II. when duke of Normandy. The form of the castle approaches nearest to that of a circle; and the buildings are included by an irregular court, with a moat. The keep, the most ancient part, is flanked by three semi-circular towers, and a square one of subsequent construction. Its walls are high and massive; the entrance into it is under an arched doorway, with ornamental sculpture in the Norman style, similar to one at Arundel Castle. During the seven centuries that this fortress has bid defiance to time, it has been the scene of various memorable transactions; the most remarkable,

perhaps, was the murder of Edward II., in September, 1327. During the civil wars, Berkeley Castle was held for the king, and frequent skirmishes took place in the town and neighbourhood. In 1645 it was besieged, and surrendered to the parliament after a defence of nine days. In the apartments, which, though in perfect repair, are mostly low, dark, and void of proportion, are preserved a numerous assemblage of portraits.

BEVERSTONE CASTLE, one of the fortified mansions of the barons of Berkeley, preserves but little of its original character, it having been besieged in the civil wars, and soon afterwards nearly destroyed by fire.

BIRDLIP HILL is celebrated among travellers for the extent and beauty of the prospect displayed beneath. Here from the summit of an immense declivity the fertile vale of Gloucester lies expanded to the view, rich with woods and gay with villages, seats, and pastures.

BLAIZE CASTLE occupies the summit of a fine conical eminence, rising from the village of Henbury. The mansion, a fine castellated edifice, of considerable height and dimensions, stands on a knoll in the centre of the park, beautifully embosomed in wood.

BROMESBERROW PLACE is an elegant modern building, standing on the site of a more ancient structure, called Hook House.

CAMPDEN, or CAMPDEN CHIPPING, is a borough and corporate town, situated seven miles from Eversham, in a fertile valley, surrounded by cultivated hills and hanging woods. In the fourteenth century it was a principal mart for wool, and the residence of many opulent merchants, who exported the commodity to Flanders, which was then the seat of the manufacture of cloth for the general supply of Europe. The merchandise and manufactures of early days are now totally lost. Its government is vested in two bailiffs, 12 capital and 12 inferior burgesses, a steward, &c. The buildings are principally ranged in one street, nearly a mile in length, about the middle of which are the court and market houses. The church, dedicated to St. James, stands on an easy eminence above the town. It is an elegant structure, and nearly symmetrical. Several monumental brasses are in this church; and in the chapel, in the south aisle, are

some fine marble monuments. Near the church are some remains of a very magnificent mansion, erected early in the seventeenth century. The vicinity of Campden was the theatre of the *Cotteswold Games*, which in the reigns of James I. and his unfortunate successor, were greatly celebrated in this part of England.

The market is on Wednesday. The fairs on Ash-Wednesday, April 23, August 5, and December 10. The number of houses 288; inhabitants 1,214.

CHALFORD BOTTOM. Chalford, near Bisley, the cloth-manufacture is here carried on to a great extent; and one of the numerous mills erected on this river, is coeval with the more general introduction of that business into this part of Gloucestershire, about the year 1560. The scenery in this vicinity is uncommonly fine.

CHELTENHAM, 95 miles from London, is more celebrated for the salubrity of its medicinal water, than for any other circumstance. Its situation is extremely pleasant; on the south and west open to the vale; on the north-east sheltered by the immense amphitheatre formed by the Cotteswold Hills, which abruptly terminate about the distance of two miles to the north. The houses are principally ranged in one street, near a mile in length, and in some parts particularly spacious. Since the commencement of the last century, when the sanative qualities of the springs were first noticed, the buildings have progressively improved, both in appearance and number, and particularly within the last 20 years. Many neat mansions have also been erected in the vicinity.

The *spring*, or *spa*, as it is called by way of distinction, was first noticed to possess medical properties in the year 1716. The discovery appears to have arisen from accident. The effects produced by this spring have proved an increasing source of wealth to the town; and its visiters have been so numerous, that it was feared the waters would be insufficient to supply the demand; which would certainly have been the case, but for the discovery of some new springs equally congenial to health as the former. The amusements of Cheltenham are similar to those of most other places of public resort.

The Well Walk is an elegant gravelled promenade, about 600 feet in length, and 20 feet in breadth, bordered on

each side by a quickset hedge. The spa, or long room, was erected in 1775, for the accommodation of persons taking the waters. It is about 60 feet long and 20 broad. The Montpellier waters are procured at a large and elegant pump-room, lately erected by Mr. Thompson. During the season, a harper attends in the morning at this room.

The other wells at Cheltenham are Sherborne, King's, Orchard, and Essex Wells, besides which there are several chalybeate springs. The summer is recommended as the fittest time for drinking the waters, which should be taken early in the morning. The season is from May to the end of November. The theatre is a spacious and commodious building in Cambray Mead. The Assembly Rooms are situated in the principal street, and in the ground-floor of the same building auctions take place every day in the height of the season. The principal charitable institutions at Cheltenham are the Free-school, the School of Industry, and the Hospital. There are hot-baths, numerous boarding-houses, several circulating libraries, and many excellent hotels. Number of houses 1,804; inhabitants 9,325.

CIRENCESTER, 16 miles from Gloucester. The present buildings of Cirencester occupy a part only of the ancient site, which extended more on the south-east side, and is now cultivated as meadow and garden-ground. Here numerous vestiges of Roman occupation have been discovered at different times; and scarcely a year passes without some memorial of antiquity being found in the vicinity. The church, dedicated to St. John, is one of the most magnificent parochial edifices in the kingdom. The regular style of the fifteenth century is prevalent in every part. In this church the antiquary will be gratified by the sight of several very rich sepulchral brasses. On the outside is a range of curious sculpture, representing a series of figures, chiefly habited as minstrels, with various instruments of music practised in the fifteenth century. This is an extremely interesting specimen, as we have no accurate knowledge of the musical instruments of the Greeks and Romans, but that collected from their bas-reliefs and statues. This town possesses several schools; the principal of which are the Free Grammar

School, founded by Bishop Ruthall; the Blue-coat School, established in 1714: the Yellow-coat School, founded in 1722. Among other charitable institutions are three hospitals, dedicated to St. John, St. Laurence, and St. Thomas. The manufactures of Cirencester seem generally in a declining state, with the exception of curriers' knives, which are made by three or four houses in this town, by one at Gloucester, and at scarcely any other place in the kingdom; these knives are highly valued throughout Europe and America. There are also a clothing-house, a small carpet manufactory, and two breweries, established here. The markets are well supplied, particularly with corn and meat, and are much frequented. Cirencester is celebrated for the salubrity of its air. There are four principal streets, and seven smaller ones.

Market on Monday and Friday. Fairs, Easter Tuesday, July 18, and November 8. Number of houses, 930; inhabitants, 4,540.

CLIFTON, one mile from Bristol. The romantic scenery of Clifton has often afforded pleasing employment both to the pen and pencil. The village which crowns the northern summit of the cliffs, between which the river Avon gently winds, could once boast a happy combination of art and nature; but so numerous and ill arranged are the modern buildings, that it has lost its former character, and the houses seem purposely contrived to intercept the view of each other. Many of them, indeed, are fast falling to decay; even whole streets are in a state of dilapidation; the vicinity, however, is still beautiful. Independently of the beauties of its situation, Clifton has obtained celebrity from the medicinal spring which rises at the base of the rocks, and which has given origin to the HOT-WELLS. The chasm through which the Avon flows in this part of its course, is formed of limestone rocks, shooting up precipitously to a vast height, and varying in colour from light red to brown, dark grey, and blue.

The properties of the celebrated spring, whose waters have become so renowned in cases of debility and consumption, were but very little regarded till the close of the seventeenth century. Since that period the efficacy

of the springs have greatly increased its repute. The new crescent here is perhaps as well built as any thing of the kind in England. The church is a neat building of moderate size. The saline mineral spa is situated in the street leading from Bristol, and attached to it are hot and cold baths. Sion spring, or the upper hot-well, is situated near Sion Hill; the water is raised by an engine which supplies the pump-room as well as the baths. Clifton has an elegant assembly-room and numerous hotels. On Clifton down are the remnants of Roman fortifications. The number of houses is 1,095; inhabitants, 6981.

DEERHURST, a village on the banks of the Severn, is celebrated as the site of a priory, founded by Duke Dodo about the year 715. The priory church, though greatly dilapidated, and several other parts of the monastic buildings are yet standing; the former retains many traces of Saxon architecture. The other monastic buildings have been converted into a farm and its offices.

ELKSTONE CHURCH, eight miles from Cirencester, is one of the most ancient buildings in the county of Gloucester, though its external appearance does not promise much; but little of its original architecture remains on the outside. The south door is a rich specimen of ancient architecture. The inside of the chancel is the only (interior) part now remaining in its original state. The appearance of this chancel is very singular, the arches not being correctly circular, but exhibiting great irregularity; part of which, no doubt, has been occasioned by its decay. The roof is not more than 12 feet in height, though on the outside it appears much higher than the nave.

FAIRFORD, 22 miles from Gloucester, is a market town, situated near the banks of the river Colne, in an extremely pleasant country; but its celebrity has arisen more from the beauty of its church, and the exquisitely painted glass, of which that is the repository, than from any other circumstance. The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is a very fine specimen of the style of architecture that prevailed about the close of the fifteenth century, and contains a variety of monuments and sepulchral inscriptions. Near the church is a spacious and convenient house, situated within a pleasant park; the pleasure-grounds have been greatly improved,

agreeably to the modern system of landscape gardening, and by the judicious introduction of plantations have been rendered extremely interesting. The vista extending opposite to the north front of the house is nearly a mile long. The whole circumference of the grounds is about four miles.

The market is on Thursday; and the fairs on May 14 and November 12. Number of houses, 302; inhabitants, 1,444.

FLAXLEY, two miles from Newnham, was the site of a Cistercian Abbey, founded in the reign of Stephen. The abbots' lodging continued in tolerable preservation till the year 1777, when a considerable part was destroyed by fire: the remainder, with many additions, forms the present mansion, which contains some good family pictures.

GLOUCESTER, 106 miles from London. This remarkable city is situated in the vale of Gloucester, on a gentle eminence, rising on the east side from the river Severn. The abbey church was converted into a cathedral at the Reformation. Hence the cathedral has been preserved in nearly its original state. In the city and suburbs of Gloucester were formerly 11 parochial churches, but those only of St. Michael, St. Mary de Crypt, St. Nicholas, St. Mary de Lode, St. John, and St. Aldate, are now standing; the remainder having been either destroyed at the siege of 1643, or since taken down.

Among the benevolent establishments that confer honour on the inhabitants of Gloucester may be mentioned the County Infirmary and the House of Industry.

The principal trade of Gloucester results from the navigation of the Severn, from the hemp and flax-dressing business, and from the pin manufacture; the latter is carried on to an immense extent. A bell foundry was established in this city before the year 1500; and, for the last 150 years, this business has centred in the Rudhall family, who, in that period, have cast upwards of 3,000 bells. The charter, under which the corporation now act, was granted by Charles II. The corporate officers consist of a mayor, 12 aldermen, a high steward, a recorder, town-clerk, two sheriffs, common council, &c.

The members of parliament are elected by the inhabitants and freemen; the number of voters is about 3,000. Very considerable improvements in the appearance and buildings of this city, have been made within the last eighty years. The streets are now well paved and lighted. The public amusements are similar to those of most other respectable cities; and recreation is sought in the attractions of a *theatre*, *assembly rooms*, &c.

The markets are on Wednesday and Saturday. The fairs on the 5 April, 5 July, 28 September, and 28 November. The number of houses, 1,544. Inhabitants, 8,280.

HAYLES ABBEY. The situation is extremely fine, its site being a rich meadow, sheltered on the north and east sides, by high hills, covered with wood. It appears from the ruins that the buildings formed a quadrangle, with a cloister, inclosing an area about 40 yards square. When the abbey was dissolved, many of the ornaments, such as painted glass, chimney-pieces, and figured bricks, were collected by the neighbouring gentry to decorate their own mansions.

HIGHMEADOW, the seat of Lord Viscount Gage, is about half a mile from Newnham. The mansion, which stands on a fine bold elevation, is a noble structure, with double wings, which gives it the appearance of a square. The bird's-eye view of the village from the house is extremely pleasing.

HIGHNAM COURT, the seat of Sir Berkeley William Guise, bart., the present lord of the manor of Highnam, is pleasantly situated about two miles west from Gloucester. The park is extensive, and the pleasure grounds judiciously disposed.

KYMIN, a considerable eminence, in the parish of Stanton, has become celebrated from a naval temple, erected on its summit to record the eminent victories obtained by the English on the seas, but particularly during the last war. This edifice is built on the ridge of a rock, and forms a square of 13 feet. The views from the summit of the Kymin are uncommonly extensive, and, from some points, highly picturesque. In the parish of Stanton also is another object that has attracted much attention. A rude fragment of siliceous grit, called the Buck-

stone, the general form of which resembles an irregular square pyramid, inverted, and standing on its apex.

LECKHAMPTON, the manor house, though situated at the base of the Leckhampton Hills, commands a fine view over the Vale of Gloucester. It occupies three sides of a quadrangle; from the form of the hall windows, and the twisted columnar chimneys, it is supposed to have been originally built in the reign of Henry VII., but the interior has been modernized, and some considerable additions were made at the beginning of the last century.

LYDNEY PARK is 123 miles from London. The old mansion called Whitecross, was built here by Sir William Wyntour, who was vice-admiral of England, and to whom the manor had been granted by Queen Elizabeth for his gallant conduct in the defeat of the Spanish Armada. This building was fortified by Sir John Wyntour during the civil wars. Sir John deserted and fired his house when the royal cause had become desperate. It was afterwards repaired by B. Bathurst, Esq.

MISERDINE PARK, nine miles from Gloucester, is seven miles in circumference, uneven in surface, and clothed with fine beech wood. It exhibits many picturesque, sequestered, and romantic scenes. In the middle of a deep valley, which the park encloses, now overgrown with trees, and devoted to solitude, is a circular mound, surrounded by a moat on which stood an ancient castle. The manorial house, situated on an eminence in the park, has the appearance of antiquity, the rooms are capacious, but have suffered greatly from neglect. They contain a number of portraits of antiquity and merit. This mansion was for a short time garrisoned for the parliament by 300 men during the civil wars.

OAKLEY GROVE, the seat of Earl Bathurst, lies on the west of Cirencester. The mansion is only a small distance from the town, the view of which is intercepted by a lofty wall, lined with trees. It was built early in the last century, and, though very spacious, is more convenient than grand. The plan is French, with a large hall in the centre, and rooms *en suite*, like Petworth, in Sussex, erected about the same time by Charles, Duke of Somerset. The embellished division of these grounds

consists of a series of linear terraces, flanked by plantations of shrubs and evergreens. Near the park wall, a path, finely shaded by beech and other trees, runs upwards of a mile in a serpentine direction. At some distance from the house, on the south-west, is a small artificial lake. The pleasure grounds have been much improved. Within the park is an ancient circular tumulus, called Grismond's Tower, about 20 feet high; also, an ancient stone cross, which formerly stood in the lesser market-place in Cirencester.

QUENINGTON, two miles from Fairford, is a small village, remarkable for the architecture of its church, which is a small low building, displaying vestiges of great antiquity, though it has apparently undergone considerable alterations during the two last centuries.

ROBIN'S WOOD HILL, in the parish of Matson, is a delightful eminence, of a conical form, which rises immediately from the Vale, and forms a beautiful object to the surrounding country. The ascent to the summit from the Vale is nearly a mile in length, and the soil being extremely fertile, every side is covered with almost continual verdure.

SHERBORNE HOUSE, the seat of Lord Sherborne, an extensive mansion, consisting of two quadrangles: the eastern and most ancient part is supposed to have been a seat of the abbots of Winchcombe. Two pleasant parks belong to this house, each between three and four miles in circumference, and, in one of them, is a neat lodge.

SOUTHAM HOUSE, about two miles from Cheltenham, in the parish of Bishop's Cleve, is a venerable and far-famed mansion; the three principal apartments appear to have been internally finished as they still remain; this house affords a curious specimen of the ornaments of conventual houses at a period immediately preceding their final dissolution; the situation is extremely beautiful; in front is an expanded prospect of the Vale, closed by the Malvern Hills, and behind, some finely picturesque woodland scenery.

SPONEBED HILL. Here is an ancient fortification, doubly entrenched, called Kingsbury Castle. In the time of Edward the Confessor, it appears to have been occupied by Earl Godwin, during the insurrection made

to expel foreigners; it was also occupied by the Royalist army, after the siege of Gloucester. Its situation is extremely good, its height commanding all the adjacent stations; the ramparts have of late suffered great dilapidation for the sake of the stones which were employed in constructing them.

STROUD-WATER is situated on the ridge of a declivity, near the confluence of the river Frome, and may be regarded as the centre of the clothing manufacture in that part of the country. The five surrounding valleys (or bottoms) exhibiting a continued range of houses, inhabited by persons engaged in that art. There are above 30,000 inhabitants within a circle of five miles from this town. The scenery of this district is very beautiful; the Stroud river has been long celebrated as possessing superior qualities in the communicating of scarlet dye to cloth.

STOWELL, near Northleach, is the seat and manor of Lord Chedworth. It stands on a gentle eminence, in a pleasant park, containing about 100 acres, and embellished by well-arranged plantations.

ST. BRIVAL'S, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Colford, is the name of a village, castle, and hundred. The castle was erected in the reign of Henry I., to curb the incursions of the Welsh. The site is surrounded by a moat, and comprehends an extent of about 500 yards. The north-west front, which is nearly all that has escaped the ravages of time, is composed of two circular towers, three stories high; the surrounding scenery is beautifully varied, and eminently romantic.

STOKE HOUSE, five miles from Bristol, is finely situated on a natural terrace in the centre of an extensive park, and commands a most interesting view of the Vale of Bristol. It is a spacious mansion, originally built in the time of Elizabeth, but since embattled and altered into a castellated form.

SUDLEY CASTLE, one mile from Winchcombe, in ruins, excites the idea of a castellated mansion, rather than of a baronial fortress. Considered as a ruin, Sudley Castle is grand, rather than strikingly picturesque. It is every where commanded by a bird's-eye view, excepting from Winchcombe, and the elevation is very gradual. Its

extent, and lofty towers, with the rich architecture of the hall, in various fragments, indicate former magnificence. The chapel is uncommonly light and elegant.

TEWKSBURY, nine miles from Cheltenham, is a large and respectable borough town, situated in the Vale of Evesham, on the eastern banks of the soft-flowing Avon. The earlier periods of the history of Tewksbury are remarkably barren of interesting events; though at an after era, it was the scene of one of the most important transactions recorded in the English annals. The dreadful and ruinous effects of the war between the rival houses of York and Lancaster, were severely experienced by the inhabitants of Tewksbury and its neighbourhood. Queen Margaret and her son, Prince Edward, previous to the memorable Tewksbury fight, had established their head quarters, or rallying point, at Cerne Abbey, in Dorsetshire.

The abbey church, built in the cathedral form, is a magnificent structure, and displays an interesting example of early Norman architecture, combined with specimens of other kinds; and is in other respects well calculated to arrest the attention of the historian, particularly from the rich monuments which have been raised over the remains of its patrons, or of the unfortunate nobles that were slain at the battle of Tewksbury.

The present handsome town hall was erected by Sir William Codrington; and the market house by twenty persons, who rent the ground of the corporation.

The local government of Tewksbury is vested in two bailiffs and four justices, with a recorder, 24 principal burgesses, and 24 assistants: from the latter, the bailiffs and justices are chosen. The privilege of returning representatives to parliament was obtained in March, 1609; the right of election is possessed by the freemen and freeholders, who amount to about 500. Many improvements have been made since the year 1786, when an act was obtained for paving and lighting the town, &c. The working classes are mostly employed in stocking frame-work knitting, particularly cotton: in the manufacture of nails; and, in the business of malting.

The markets are on Wednesday and Saturday. The fairs on 7 March, 14 May, 22 June, 4 September, and 10

October. The number of houses, 1,003. Inhabitants, 4,820.

THORNBURY, eleven miles from Bristol. At the end of the town are the remains of the unfinished palatial castle of Thornbury. The building, of which was begun by Edward Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, but stopped when he was beheaded in 1522. Thornbury Castle, even in its present state of decay, presents a happy specimen of the last gradation of Gothic architecture, in the application of that style to castellated houses. Hampton Court, though it rose under the hands of Wolsey, at the same period, is certainly less rich in the minute and capricious ornaments peculiar to the buildings of Henry VII., and his successor.

WHITEHOUSE, in Dymock parish, was the birth-place of the celebrated John Kyrle, better known, perhaps, by the appellation of the Man of Ross, whose public virtues have obtained him a far greater portion of praise than usually falls to the lot of mortals. He was born in the year 1637, and died in 1724, at Ross, in Herefordshire.

HAMPSHIRE.

Length 42 miles. Breadth 38. Circumference 220. Square miles 1,533. Square acres 981,120. Hundreds 39. Market Towns 20. Parishes 308. Houses 44,681. Persons 253,300.—Diocese of Winchester.—Western Circuit.—Members to Parliament 16.—Militia Men 960.

BOUNDARIES.—Hampshire is bounded on the east by Surry and Sussex; on the south by the British Channel; on the west by Wiltshire and Dorsetshire; and on the north by Berkshire. The surface of this county is beautifully varied with gently rising hills and fruitful valleys, adorned with numerous seats and villages, and interspersed with extensive woodlands. The county is chiefly enclosed, though large tracts of open heath and uncultivated land remain in the vicinity of Christchurch, and on the confines of Dorsetshire. From Overton towards Stockbridge, and thence to Redbridge, a beautiful vale extends, divided into well-watered meadows, and producing from two to three loads of hay per acre. South and south-west of Romsey, the county is principally occupied by the *New Forest*, which was so called because it was added to the existing forests by William the Conqueror. There are also two other forests in this county called East Bere and Woolmer. Here are the remains of many ancient camps. The air in the higher parts is clear and pure, and towards the sea, mild but inclined to moisture.

SOIL.—This county has a great variety of soils, but the principal part is chalk. Towards the sea are great quantities of very fertile marsh land. Bordering on Berkshire the land is excellent, and produces good crops of corn. The Dorsetshire border has large tracts of heath land. On the acclivities of the hills towards Basingstoke the land is in general very deep and strong with chalk beneath. Round Whitchurch it is less deep and chalky, but produces good crops of corn and saint-foin. Round Andover the land is high and down like; yet the soil, though thin, is very favourable to the growth of barley. Towards Romsey it is still more fertile, and the land is well culti-



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vated, and interspersed with woods and fine hedge-row timber. The soil of the New Forest is chiefly loam and gravel. The vicinity of Redbridge is distinguished for its valuable salt-marshes. Towards Petersfield the land is more open, with a considerable quantity of down. Approaching Portsmouth it is more enclosed, and interspersed with timber and underwood. Round Fareham and Warnford the hills are chalky, and partly covered with beech wood: here also are extensive downs, and on the bank of the river Itchin are some valuable water meadows.

AGRICULTURE.—The parishes east of Alton are chiefly appropriated to the growth of hops. The general rotation of crops on the richer lands is wheat, turnips, barley; peas, rye-grass, trefoil, saint-foin, white and red clover, are also much cultivated. The principal manures are peat-ashes, chalk or lime, marl, and sea-weed. The system of drill husbandry is but little practised; the plough on the heavy lands is drawn by four horses. This county has gained considerable repute in breeding sheep and swine. The flocks of south-down sheep are in general very large, and the downs are mostly covered with them. For its breed of hogs Hampshire is proverbially famous. Many *horses* are bred in the forests, but they are in general very small. The *cows* are not of any particular character, and as the dairies are few in number, not much attention is given to their improvement. Many hives of *bees* are kept in different parts of the county, and the honey is generally of a fine flavour. A great quantity of land is held under the Bishop of Winchester, and also the Dean and Chapter, upon leases for 21 years, renewable every seven on paying a fine. Many estates belonging to other persons are held on lease for three lives, not renewable; and others expire at a certain time, or at the death of a tenant.

MANUFACTURES in this county are few, and those only of shaloons and coarse woollens. Large quantities of malt are made at Andover; near which is Wey Hill, the site of the greatest fair in England for hops, sheep, cheese, and other commodities. At Lymington is a manufacture of salt.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers in Hampshire are the

Itchin, the Avon, the Boldre Water, the Exe, the Anton, and the Tese or Test. Several smaller streams rise in the north-west parts, but soon quit the county in their passage to the Thames. The *Itchin* has its source in the vicinity of Alresford, near the middle of Hampshire, and, being increased by the Alne, flows westward to King's Worthy; it passes Winchester, and the hospital of St. Cross; thence, gliding through fertile meadows, it flows by Twyford, and passing Bishopstoke, hastens to unite its stream with the Southampton water. The *Avon* enters the county from Wiltshire; passing Fordingbridge and Ringwood it flows towards Christchurch, below which it receives the waters of the Stour, and enters the sea at Christchurch bay. The *Boldre Water* is formed by various springs that rise in the New Forest, and mostly unite above Brokenhurst, whence they in a single stream pass Boldre and Lymington to the sea. The *Exe* also has its source in the same district, and beginning to widen near Beaulieu, opens in a broad estuary to the sea below Exburg. The *Anton* flowing through part of Andover has its stream increased by the Tillhill brook, and afterwards runs into the Tese about one mile below Wirwell. The *Tese*, or Test, has its origin in the neighbourhood of Whitchurch, and, after its junction with the Anton, passes Stockbridge and Romsey, and receives several small rills from the New Forest near Redbridge, below which it opens, and forms the head of the Southampton Water.

Remarkable Places.

AVINGTON, four miles from Winchester, formerly the residence of the notorious Countess of Shrewsbury, and the scene of her licentious pleasures with the profligate Charles II. The present mansion is situated in a well planted and secluded valley, nearly environed with high downs, which from their bare and open state form a singular, though not unpleasing contrast with the scenery immediately contiguous to the mansion. Several of the apartments are fitted up with great elegance, and are highly enriched by a choice collection of paintings.

BASING HOUSE, 2½ miles from Basingstoke, appears from a survey made in the year 1798, including the garden and entrenchments, to have occupied about 10½

acres. The form was extremely irregular; the ditches very deep, and the ramparts high and strong; some of the remains are yet very bold and striking. The site of the ruins is particularly commanding. The canal from Basingstoke has been cut through a part of the works; and the outward entrenchments have been rendered very obscure and imperfect from some late improvements in the grounds. Basing church is a large, ancient, and curious structure, standing at a short distance from the site of Basing-house, and consists of three aisles, with a tower rising from the centre; the roof is supported by round arches, springing from massive columns. Various banners, with impalements of the arms of different families, remain hanging in the aisle, with fragments of others that are nearly destroyed.

BASINGSTOKE, 45 miles from London, is a large, ancient, and populous town, situated in a pleasant and well wooded part of the county, and commanding a considerable trade from its standing at the junction of five great roads. The church is a spacious and handsome structure. The government of Basingstoke is vested in a mayor, recorder, seven aldermen, seven capital burgesses, and other officers. The Town Hall is a large and new edifice. Several schools have been instituted here for the education of youth, particularly a free-school of some repute, and a charity school, in which 12 boys are clothed and maintained at the expense of the Skinners' Company of London. Basingstoke possesses a considerable trade in corn, flour, coals, timber, manure, and goods of almost every description, which are conveyed to different parts of the country by a canal. On an eminence at the northern extremity of Basingstoke, are situated the remains of Holy Ghost chapel. Here is a manufactory of druggets and shalloons.

The market is on Wednesday. Number of houses 501; inhabitants 2,589.

BEAULIEU ABBEY. These ruins are beautifully situated about three miles above Butler's Hard. The delightful valley that surrounds these venerable remains is of a circular form, bounded by well-wooded hills, and in itself consists of a rich variety of ground. This abbey was the temporary asylum of Margaret of Anjou, when

her intrepid spirit yielded for a moment to adversity; it also afforded a sanctuary to Perkin Warbeck.

BELLE VUE, a delightful residence, is situated near Southampton. The house is a superb modern edifice, commanding a most exquisite prospect over the adjacent country; Southampton Water appears spread out like a spacious lake. The shrubberies and gardens are extensive; the green-house and hot-house are very elegant, and furnished with plants of almost every description, both indigenous and exotic.

BEVIS MOUNT. This mount was originally a vast pile of earth, rising in a conical form from a foundation of great extent; and it is traditionally said to have been thrown up by Sir Bevois, to obstruct the Danes in their endeavours to cross the Itchin. At high water the tide forms a bay at the foot of this eminence; and the beauty of the prospect is then so much increased, that a former possessor of this estate, Charles Mordaunt, Earl of Peterborough, would never suffer his grounds to be inspected by strangers unless the river was at its height. Under his direction, the grounds at Bevis Mount were disposed into a kind of wilderness, and here his Lordship frequently resided. This has also been the residence of the poet Sotheby, the translator of Wieland's Oberon.

BROADLANDS, one mile from Romsey, the seat of Lord Viscount Palmerston. The house is a neat edifice of white brick, standing on the eastern side of the river Test, which flows through the park. The collection of paintings preserved in this mansion is extremely fine.

BROKENHURST, a very pleasant village, of Saxon origin, is recorded in the Domesday book, by the name of Broceste, and is there also said to have a church, which is yet standing, though somewhat disguised by subsequent alterations. The font is a very antique and curious piece of workmanship, and was evidently formed when the custom of total immersion was prevalent. In the churchyard is a very old and venerable oak, measuring upwards of eight yards in diameter; and also a noble yew-tree, more that 60 feet high, and 15 feet in girth. *Brokenhurst House* is a handsome modern structure. The park contains some venerable oaks, supposed to have been planted prior to the conquest.

CALSHOT CASTLE, near Southampton, a small fortress constructed by Henry VIII., as a safeguard to Southampton Bay. It has still a garrison, though but ill adapted for defence, and at present of very little importance. The surrounding prospects are very fine, particularly the view of Cowes, with other parts of the Isle of Wight, and the opposite banks towards Netley Abbey.

CHRIST CHURCH, 98 miles from London, a borough town, is situated between two rivers, the Avon, and the Stour. The principal remains of the castle are the ruins of the Keep, or Citadel, and an ancient stone building. The church is a very large and interesting structure. This borough sends two members to parliament. The right of election is exercised by the corporation, which consists of a mayor, a recorder, aldermen, bailiffs, and a common council, in all twenty-four persons. Many of the inhabitants find employment from two large breweries; others are employed in the salmon-fishery, on the rivers Avon and Stour, or in fishing round the neighbouring shores, which abound with various kinds of fish. The poorer class of females in the town and neighbourhood, are mostly engaged in knitting stockings; and many children are employed in a manufactory of watch-spring chains. The poor-house is conducted on a very excellent plan. From the hotel at Christ Church is a beautiful view of the sea, and of the Needle rocks at the west end of the Isle of Wight. The bay, or harbour, of Christ Church is spacious, but from various local causes, it is too shallow and dangerous to be frequented by vessels that draw more than five feet and a half of water.

The market is on Monday. The fairs, Thursday in Trinity week, and 17th October. The number of houses is 290,—inhabitants 1,410.

CUFFNELLS, situated near the centre of the New forest, possesses many peculiar advantages of scenery; its bold irregularity of surface, finely adorned by majestic oaks, and noble beech trees, composes some charming landscapes. The house stands on a rising ground, embosomed with trees; the conservatory is stored with a choice assemblage of indigenous and exotic plants, and from its size and construction, is much admired. The library is supposed to contain one of the most valuable

collections of books belonging to any private gentleman in the kingdom. It was once the residence of the right honourable George Rose.

DANEBURY HILL is a long elevated ridge, running nearly east and west, and terminating abruptly in a point, or head. There is a circular entrenchment, in good preservation, enclosing an extensive area, with very high ramparts.

DIBDEN, one and a half mile from Southampton, the church is very old, incommodious, and mean. In the church-yard is an immense yew-tree, about thirty feet round; near the root the trunk is hollow, but still sufficiently strong to support three stems of very considerable size.

DOGMERSFIELD PARK, one and a half mile from Odiham. The mansion is a very extensive building, standing on an eminence in a park, containing 700 acres, and independent of the home prospects, commanding on the south and east some distant views of the open country. It has two fronts, and contains several spacious and elegant apartments, decorated with some good paintings of the Italian, Venetian, and Flemish schools. In the library is a very valuable collection of books, amounting to upwards of 5,000 volumes. The park includes a great diversity of ground, and is very beautifully wooded. The shrubbery and pleasure grounds were laid out by Emes. Near the house is a lake of about 44 acres. Immediately adjoining the park lies an extensive common, covered with oak trees and hollies, and in many parts bearing a striking resemblance to the New Forest.

FREEFOLK, a small hamlet, east of Whitchurch. At this place are the paper mills, where the paper for Bank of England notes have been manufactured ever since the reign of George I.

GRANGE PARK, near Northington. The house was built from the designs of Inigo Jones, and Horace Walpole pronounced it one of his best works. Its situation is low, the grounds varied and beautiful.

GOSPORT, five miles from Farham, is a market town, on the west side of Portsmouth harbour, and is a place of great trade, and more particularly so in time of war. Here is a large iron foundry, in which various articles

are cast for the use of the navy. Near this town is a noble building called Haslar Hospital, for the cure of the sick and wounded seamen in His Majesty's service.

The market is on Saturday, the fairs on the 4th of May, and 10th of October. The number of houses 1,863—inhabitants 11,295.

HACKWOOD PARK, the seat and property of Lord Bolton, The park is very extensive, the surface is boldly irregular, and partakes of the beautiful character of the neighbouring chalk downs. The house is situated towards the western boundary of the park, and encompassed by about 100 acres of pleasure grounds, disposed into lawn, terrace, shrubbery, and a noble wood. The mansion was originally a lodge, built in queen Elizabeth's time, and used as a place of meeting for the company assembled for the purpose of hawking, and for a banquetting room, after the sport was over. The lodge now forms the central part of the building.

HIGH CLERE, 12 miles from Andover, the manor and residence of Henry Herbert, earl of Carnarvon. The mansion is situated on a rising ground, in a noble park, upwards of 13 miles in circumference. Part of it was built upon the old site, by the honourable Robert Herbert; but it was greatly enlarged, and has received its present form from Lord Carnarvon. It is a brick structure, stuccoed, in a modern style of architecture. Various portraits are preserved in this house, with other good paintings, and cabinet pictures. The chief glory of High Clere, is its park and pleasure grounds, of which it may be truly observed, that few places, of similar extent, in the inland parts of the kingdom, can boast of surface more varied, or scenery more interesting. The most striking feature of the park, is Sidon Hill, boldly rising upwards of 400 feet in perpendicular height above the level of a neighbouring valley: it is crowned with a ruined arch, backed by venerable woods; the plantations on its sides are also disposed with great beauty; and the drives which wind along the summit, presents various and extensive views over the park and surrounding country. On the opposite side of Sidon Hill, is a castellated lodge, of triangular form, with a turret at each angle. The view from

Tent Hill is very extensive. In front of the house is a most luxuriant display of wood and water. Several ornamental buildings have been erected in different parts of this demesne.

HIGH CLIFF obtained a considerable degree of popular celebrity from a sumptuous mansion erected here by the late Earl Bute, for the advantage of the sea air, and extent of the prospect. The danger arising from the situation, and other circumstances, have, however, occasioned this seat to be neglected, and part of the building to be taken down.

HURST CASTLE, near Lymington, is a fortress, erected by Henry VIII., to defend this part of the channel, and consists of a circular tower, strengthened by semicircular bastions. This is situated near the extremity of an extraordinary natural causeway, or point of land, which runs two miles into the sea, and approaches the Isle of Wight, within the distance of a mile. Within the dreary walls of Hurst Castle, Charles I. was confined for several days, in September 1648, the month immediately preceding that in which he was beheaded. The castle has still a garrison, though since the rise of Portsmouth, and the station of the fleet there, the works have been neglected.

HURSTBOURNE PARK, the beautiful seat of Earl Portsmouth, is about one mile to the west of Whitchurch. The mansion stands on an elevated ground, commanding various extensive and fine prospects to the south and north; it consists of a centre and two uniform wings, connected with the body of the house, by colonnades. In the centre part are several noble rooms, decorated with numerous paintings, some of which are the productions of the best masters. From the south, or principal front, the grounds gradually slope to a large piece of water, which winds through the park; the latter is delightfully wooded, and abounds with fine deer and timber.

KING'S SOMBORNE, three miles from Stockbridge, was part of the ancient demesne belonging to the crown, previous to the conquest; John of Gaunt is said to have had a seat or palace here, and the tradition is supported by the appearance of a large mansion in ruins, and nume-

rous yew-trees, which appear to have been sedulously cultivated about his age, for the use of archery. The surrounding grounds are laid out in a peculiar manner.

LUTTRELL'S FOLLY was raised as a prospect-house, and occupies a very beautiful and commanding eminence, which has been formed into a terrace, and extends a very considerable way along the beech; the view of the sea is remarkably interesting. This edifice is in the form of a lofty tower, in which are the banquetting and sitting rooms, fitted up in a very extensive and splendid style. The offices are detached.

MAPLEDURHAM, about two miles south of Petersfield, was the seat, and some time residence of the historian Gibbon.

LYMINGTON, 95 miles from London, has been long famous for its salt works. Here is the most considerable manufacture of marine salt, (so called from its being made of sea-water,) of any upon this coast. This town sends representatives to parliament, and the right of election is vested in the mayor and burgesses; the number of voters is about eighty. The situation of Lymington on the banks of the navigable river, so contiguous to the sea, is extremely favourable for its trade. The scenery is particularly beautiful at full tides. Many of the houses are well built, and command a most delightful prospect of the English channel and the Isle of Wight. The Town Hall is a neat building, and is often used as an assembly room. There are two sets of baths, which are very convenient, and much frequented during the bathing season. About a mile distant are traces of a Roman camp, called Buckland Rings, or Castle Field.

The market is on Saturday: the fairs 12th May, and 2d October. Number of houses 475, inhabitants 2,378.

MOTTISFONT HOUSE, five miles from Stockbridge, is a spacions and venerable edifice, occupying a portion of the site of a priory of canons regular, of the order of St. Augustine. In Mottisfont house, a curious ancient painting is preserved, that appears to have belonged to the priory, and is supposed to represent in compartments, two events in the life of the celebrated Thomas Aquinas. The gardens and pleasure grounds are very commodious, and embellished with several fine plane trees.

NETLEY ABBEY, about three miles from Southampton. In a very beautiful situation are the ruins of Netley Abbey; Edward Seymour, son of the protector Somerset, resided here in the year 1560, and entertained his royal mistress in the month of August, in Netley Castle. Netley Abbey stands on the declivity of a hill, rising gently from the water, but so environed by beautifully-wooded scenery, as to be almost secluded from observation. Its ruins have often furnished a theme for poetical description, and moral precept. The chapel was built in the form of a cross, and was originally a very elegant structure, in the English style of architecture, but its beautiful roof, richly adorned by ramifications, spreading from the intersections of the groining, has fallen in, its north transept is destroyed, most of its windows are bereaved of their tracery, and many other parts are completely mutilated. The southern transept, and the east end, are more perfect; the columns and arches which remain are beautifully light and elegant. Various devices, and armorial insignia, supposed to be those of the benefactors to the abbey, may be traced on the ruins that strew the ground. Many parts of the ruins are finely mantled with ivy; and the various trees that have sprung up among the mouldering walls, greatly increase the picturesque appearance of the whole.

NEW FOREST, according to its earliest boundaries, included the whole of that part of Hampshire which lies between the Southampton river on the east, the British Channel on the south, and the river Avon on the west. The forest lands, containing 63,845 acres, are the property of the crown, subject to certain rights belonging to the proprietors of the estates within or adjacent to the forest; besides the heaths, lawns, and woods, of which the forest is composed, there are in some parts extensive bogs; the most interesting part of the forest, in a picturesque point of view, is that confined between the Beaulieu river and the bay of Southampton. The water views are very grand, and the banks, both of the river and the bay, being richly decorated with woody scenery, possess a peculiarly beautiful character. The oaks of the New Forest are unique, their branches are twisted into the most picturesque forms. The Cadenham oak is regarded

as one of the curiosities of the New Forest, having long been famous for its premature vegetation, its buds appearing every year in the depth of winter. In this forest William Rufus was accidentally slain by an arrow.

ODIHAM CASTLE, at North Warnborough, was erected anterior to the reign of King John, when it belonged to the see of Winchester, and became celebrated for its resistance against the army of Louis, the dauphin of France. The original extent and form of the castle cannot now be ascertained; the fragments that remain are those of the Keep, which was an octagonal building: some of the ditches may yet be traced. Here David Bruce, King of Scotland, was confined for 11 years.

PORCHESTER CASTLE, near Portsmouth. The precise origin of this structure is unknown; but this spot was certainly occupied by a fortress, that was successively possessed by the Britons, the Romans, the Saxons, and the Normans; and the modes of building practised by the three latter, are yet discoverable in the walls and towers of the present castle. This castle is situated on a neck of land, jutting out a considerable way towards the middle of the harbour; it is a noble pile of a quadrangular form, surrounding an area of between four and five acres, and still in sufficient preservation to be used as a place of confinement for prisoners of war, from 3,000 to 5,000 of whom have been secured here at one time.

PORTSMOUTH and PORTSEA, 74 miles from London, are included within the limits of the borough of Portsmouth; both are governed by the same magistrates, and both admitted to a participation in the same immunities. Portsmouth, as the more ancient town, has preserved its dignity and precedence in still being the seat of the civil and military establishments; it is also the residence of the port admiral; its streets are likewise more spacious; and, in general, its houses and buildings are superior. Portsea, however, is by far the largest and most populous town; and has the advantage in having both the Dock-yard and Gun-wharf, within its precincts. The Duke of Buckingham, the great favourite of Charles I., was here assassinated, while surrounded by his principal officers, by the enthusiast Felton. The house in which he was stabbed, was No. 10, in the High Street,

and is yet standing nearly opposite to the meeting-house. The fortifications extending along the beech, from the town to South-sea Castle, form a noble semicircular terrace, which is planted with elms, and, being kept in excellent order, makes a delightful promenade, upwards of a mile in length. The Dock-yard, and the Gun-wharf, are both on the Portsea side; yet though close to the town, they are rigidly excluded from all connexion with it, but what depends on the requisite accommodations of the workmen employed. The Dock-yard is very extensive, and contains every article of which the navy can be in want. The number of its buildings are considerable; consisting of immense store-houses, handsome residences for the principal officers, a spacious and elegant mansion for the commissioner, an academy for naval instruction, a neat chapel, extensive workshops, mast-houses, &c. The jetty-heads, with the basins and docks, and the ships in harbour, present a very grand and interesting spectacle, to which the extraordinary capaciousness of the new range of Docks, &c., greatly contribute. Great improvements have been made in all the departments of the yard within the last 30 years; and, in addition to the other machines employed to facilitate labour, two steam engines have been erected, one of them on a very large and improved scale. The number of workmen employed in Portsmouth yard is very great, but varies considerably; in peaceable times, upwards of 2,000 men are commonly engaged in its different departments; but in times of war, this number is frequentlydoubled, and even 5,000 persons have been employed here together. The Gun-wharf includes several ranges of building for the reception of the naval and military artillery, stores, &c. The small armory is a spacious building, sufficiently large to contain arms for 25,000 men. The principal buildings dependent on this grand naval emporium, on the Portsmouth side, are the victualling-office, the government house, the houses of the lieutenant governor, and port admiral, and the marine and military barracks. Portsmouth received its first charter from Richard Cœur-de-Lion, since which various charters have been granted by succeeding kings, that under which the town is now governed, was bestowed by Charles I. The corporation consists of a mayor,

recorder, 12 aldermen, an unlimited number of burgesses, and some inferior officers. The right of election is vested in the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses; the number of voters is about 110. The public business is mostly transacted at the town-hall, a large building injudiciously placed near the middle of the High Street, with an open space for the markets beneath.

In the High Street also is the town prison, having different apartments for separating the prisoners into classes. The church, dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket, is a spacious building erected at different periods. The tower, which is the most modern part, is 120 feet high, forming a good mark for seamen. Among the charitable institutions are a free grammar school, and several other schools; also, an alms-house for eight poor widows. The poor-house is an old building, standing in a very dissolute part of the town, and much confined; that of Portsea occupies a more open spot, about a mile distant. The commercial character of these towns has been greatly improved within the last century; and, even in time of peace, the trade is very considerable. At high water, Portsmouth Point is completely insulated, and the communication of the town is then by a draw-bridge. Several extensive breweries are established at Portsmouth, and for commercial convenience, a bank has been erected on the parade. The amusements of the upper classes are sought in subscription assemblies held at the Crown inn, occasional concerts, and the pleasures of the theatre. The general mode by which the inhabitants are supplied with water, is inconvenient; from the want of reservoirs, or aqueducts, it is carried out in carts, and sold for daily use. The number of inns and public houses is 231.—The chief part of those who inhabit Portsea and its vicinity, are the artificers and labourers belonging to the dock-yard, and persons employed in retail trades, &c. The capaciousness and safety of Portsmouth Harbour are decidedly superior to most others in the kingdom, secure from every storm; the largest first-rates may ride here at the lowest ebbs, without touching ground; and its extent is almost sufficient for the whole navy of England. Every where the bottom affords good anchorage, and is so completely free from bars or impediments, that even a first-rate can

make sail at any time of the tide, and quit the harbour in the deep water beneath South-sea Castle.

The markets are on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. The fair begins on the 10th July, and continues for 14 days. Portsmouth contains 1,130 houses, and 7,839 inhabitants. Portsea consists of 4,393 houses, and inhabited by 25,387 persons.

RINGWOOD, 17 miles from Romsey, is a market town, in the New Forest. Many of the houses and the church are well built. This place has long been celebrated for its ale, of which it exports considerable quantities. It also trades in leather, stockings, druggets, and some narrow cloths. The neighbouring meadows are frequently overflowed by the several streams into which the river Avon is here divided.

The market is on Wednesday. The fairs on 10th July, and 11th December. Number of houses, 671. Inhabitants, 3,222.

ROMSEY, seven miles from Southampton, is a large and ancient town, situated in a flat part of the county, and surrounded by pleasant meadows, rendered extremely productive by the overflowing waters of the rivers Test and Anton. Here was a considerable abbey, founded for Benedictine nuns by Edward the elder, whose daughter Elfreda was the first abbess. But little of the nunnery buildings are now standing, except the venerable and interesting abbey church; the other parts are chiefly confined to a few fragments of walls. The church is a spacious fabric, in the form of a cross, with a low tower rising from the intersection of the nave and transept. It bears various evidences, both within and without, of the period in which its was erected, the middle of the tenth century. Since that period, however, parts of it have been rebuilt, or altered into the pointed style, and the whole exhibits a very instructive series of examples in the different kinds of architecture, that have successively prevailed in this county. The corporation of Romsey consists of a mayor, recorder, six aldermen, 12 burgesses, and inferior officers. The Audit House is a large square building, near the centre of the town. The Town Hall is a small old building, near the Hundred Bridge. This town had formerly a considerable clothing trade, but that

business is now principally reduced to the manufacture of a few shalloons. Additional employment is furnished to the inhabitants by some paper-works and a sacking manufactory.

The market is on Saturday; fairs, Easter Monday, August 26, and November 3. Houses 849; inhabitants 4,271.

ST. DENNIS'S PRIORY, founded for black canons by Henry I. The ruins are only of small extent, and appear chiefly to have formed the west end of the priory church. The spot occupied by the monastic buildings is now the site of a farm-house.

ST. LEONARD'S, near Sowley. Here are the ruins of the barn and chapel of St. Leonard's, anciently the principal grange belonging to Beaulieu Abbey. The barn was of great magnitude, its length measuring 226 feet, its breadth 77, and its height upwards of 60 feet. Within the end walls is a barn of considerable size, that has been constructed with the old materials. The remains of the chapel evince it to have been once extremely beautiful, but its original splendour is nearly obscured.

SILCHESTER, seven miles from Basingstoke, is one of the most perfect of the ancient stations in the south of England; it is situated near the borders of Hampshire, adjoining Berks, and from its elevated site commands very extensive prospects over the surrounding country.

SOUTHAMPTON, 77 miles from London, has been much frequented as a watering-place, for which purpose its peculiarly healthful and pleasant situation is extremely favourable. Southampton contains six parishes and five churches. St. Michael's, which forms the eastern side of the square of the same name, is a very ancient and curious building. The parsonage of Holy Rood Church is an old and curious edifice. Various other buildings, in different parts of the town, display considerable antiquity, and particularly the spacious mansion in Porter's Lane, near the site of the Water Gate. In the High Street, which is the principal in Southampton, is the Bar Gate, a curious vestige of its early fortifications. The front in High Street is modern, and is ornamented with a statue of George III. The north front was built in the time of Edward III.; but

the centre arch is supposed to have been erected by the Normans. The New church in the High Street has a plain but neat exterior; but the interior is fitted up in a style of peculiar elegance, and the walls are decorated with several splendid monuments.

Southampton is a county in itself, having its own clerk of the peace. The corporation consists of a mayor, recorder, sheriff, two bailiffs, and a common-council, a town-clerk, two coroners, and other inferior officers. The records and regalia of the corporation are kept in the Audit House. Four fairs are held here annually, the principal of which is opened by the mayor and bailiffs with much ceremony, on the Saturday preceding Trinity Sunday. The attractions which Southampton presents for sea-bathing, and other healthful purposes, are increased by a chalybeate spring, much in repute for its medicinal qualities. The baths are convenient, and every attention is paid to the accommodation of the numerous visitants who frequent this town during the bathing season. The assembly rooms are beautifully situated near the West Quay, and very elegantly fitted up. A theatre has been built, on the site of St. John's Hospital. Additional recreation is derived from the races, which are annually held on Stoneham Common, about three miles from the town; and from an annual sailing-match. There are two respectable circulating libraries and reading rooms, which are much frequented. The environs of the town are particularly pleasant; and the neighbouring country abounds with elegant seats, and finely situated villages. In the summer season, packets sail daily to the Isle of Wight. Several of the hotels, and many of the shops at Southampton, are remarkably splendid. The number of houses is 1,509; inhabitants 7,913.

SOUTHWICK PARK includes the site of the priory, only a small part of which now remains. The manor-house is a large building of some antiquity, having two wings terminating in gable ends and embattled. In this edifice two monarchs have been entertained, Charles I. and George I. The former was here when the Duke of Buckingham, whom he had accompanied thus far from London, was assassinated by Felton at Portsmouth.

STRATFIELD SAY, eight miles from Basingstoke,

lately the seat of Lord Rivers, has been purchased by government, and presented to the Duke of Wellington as a magnificent token of national gratitude. The house stands in an extensive park, but rather low; the scenery is pleasing from the quantity of wood, which, combining with a small stream that flows through the grounds, forms some pleasing views.

WEY HILL, three miles from Andover, is the site of an annual fair, commencing on the day before Old Michaelmas-day, for the sale of sheep, of which upwards of 140,000 have been sold in one day. On Michaelmas Day the farmers hire their servants, and on the next the sale of hops begins, and the fair continues a more or less number of days after, according to the quantities of this commodity that may be exposed for sale. A vast number of horses are also sold here, particularly cart-colts; together with great quantities of cheese, cloths, and various other kinds of wares. The fair generally lasts six or seven days, and is attended by persons from almost every part of England.

TITCHFIELD HOUSE, three miles from Fareham, the ancient seat of the Wriothesleys, was erected by the first Earl of Southampton, on the site, and with the materials of an abbey, founded for Premonstratensian Canons. This building is now in a very dilapidated state, the entrance gateway being the principal part left standing; 16 rooms have been pulled down within these few years for the sake of the materials. The old stables yet remain, and are worthy of notice. The chapel is wholly in ruins. In Titchfield House, Charles I. was concealed after his escape from Hampton Court, in 1647, and previous to his again resigning himself to the power of Colonel Hammond, who conducted him to the Isle of Wight.

WARBLINGTON CASTLE, near Havant. These ruins are supposed to have been part of the ancient mansion of the Warblingtons, or of the Montacutes; part of the materials are brick, faced with hewn-stone; it appears to have been originally a square pile of about 200 feet, surrounding a quadrangular court; but the only parts now standing are the gateway and tower; and even these are fast mouldering to decay. The whole was surrounded by a fosse, about 10 feet deep, and included about an acre of ground.

WINCHESTER, 62 miles from London. This eminent and very ancient city, stands on the eastern declivity of a hill, gradually sloping to the river Itchin. The buildings are chiefly disposed in parallel streets, branching off at right angles from the High Street, which runs through the centre. The cathedral of Winchester is one of the most interesting buildings in England, whether considered with respect to the "antiquity of its foundation, the importance of the scenes that have been transacted in it, or the characters of the personages with whose mortal remains it is enriched and hallowed." It is also curious as an instructive example of architecture, whether of the Saxon, Norman, or English style, but particularly of the latter, both in its early and improved state. One of the most celebrated institutions at Winchester is the College, founded by Bishop Wykeham, which occupies a considerable space of ground, and has in general a very venerable aspect. In the High Street, stands the city cross, an elegant specimen of the style of the age of Henry VI. The ecclesiastical buildings in this city, and its suburbs, were formerly extremely numerous; the churches and chapels alone, amounting to upwards of 90; and several having colleges and monasteries attached to them. Scarcely 12 of them now remain; the others having been destroyed by the effects of war, or otherwise. In the town-hall the city archives, the original Winchester bushel, given by King Edgar, with other measures, fixed as standards by succeeding Princes, and various curious memorials of antiquity, are still preserved. The market-house is a neat building. Among the other public buildings that require notice, are the ancient structure called St. John's House, originally founded as an hospital; a county goal; a neat theatre; and a county hospital. The government is vested in a mayor, recorder, six aldermen, a town clerk, two coroners, two constables, and a council of 24 inhabitants. The right of election is vested in the corporation.

The ancient castle of Winchester is supposed to have been built by King Arthur, in which William Rufus was crowned. During the civil wars, it was mostly destroyed by the parliament forces, except the old hall, in which the assizes are still held; in this also hangs what is denominated Arthur's round table, inscribed with the names of the



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RYDE, ISLE OF WIGHT.

immense number of marine birds. In some places the cliffs are perpendicular; in others they project, and hang over in a tremendous manner. The air throughout the island is particularly salubrious. The coast yields all the usual species of fish; and the lobster and crab are extremely large and excellent. The island is under the superintendence of a governor and lieutenant-governor, appointed by the crown. Very extensive barracks have been erected, and were during the last war the principal depôt for foreign troops in British pay.

SOIL.—This charming island contains various soils: but the prevailing kind is a strong loamy earth, well adapted for agricultural purposes, and extremely fertile. All the higher parts are composed of an immense mass of calcareous matter, of a chalky nature, incumbent on schistus. The lime-stone is burnt for manure. A stratum of coal discovers itself at the foot of Bunbridge Cliff, and at Warden Ledge, running through the southern part of the isle; on the north of this stratum lie veins of white sand and fullers'-earth; on the south is another of red-ochre. Free-stones of several descriptions are found here, but none of superior quality. Among other products of this island may be enumerated red and yellow ochres, native alum, silvery sand, native sulphur, copperas stones, and pipe-clay.

AGRICULTURE.—There are about 75,000 acres in tillage, and 20,000 in pasturage. The grains chiefly cultivated are wheat, barley, oats, pease, and beans. The meadow land is extremely rich. The number of sheep fed on the downs are calculated at 40,000, producing 5,000 lambs annually for the London market. The cows are mostly of the Devon and Alderney breed, crossed with other sorts. The horses are large, and generally black; the hogs are also of a large kind, and make excellent bacon. The cheese in general is very indifferent. The grain is usually sown broadcast; but the drill system has been introduced, and answers well on the light and sandy soils. The manures are lime, marl, and the produce of the farm-yard.

MANUFACTURES are chiefly confined to the making of starch, hair-powder, salt, woollens, sacks, &c. The trade of the Isle of Wight is flourishing, and the harbour of

Cowes particularly convenient for shipping and unshipping merchandise. The chief imports are coals, timber, deals, iron, wine, hemp, and fruits; the principal exports are wheat, flour, barley, malt, and salt.

CHALYBEATE SPRINGS have been found in different parts of the island; one at Black Gang is very strong. At Pitland there is a spring impregnated with sulphur; and at Shanklin there is one slightly tinctured with alum. The springs of clear water are very numerous, and in general extremely pure and transparent, from the natural percolation they undergo through the lime-stone strata.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers are the *Medina*, the *Yar*, and the *Wootton*. The Medina, or Cowes River, rises near the bottom of St. Catherine's Downs, and divides the island into two equal parts; it passes east of Newport, and in Cowes harbour unites its waters with the ocean. Numerous smaller streams also exist; and various creeks and bays run up from the sea.

Remarkable Places.

APPULDURCOMBE, formerly the residence of Sir Richard Worsley, Bart., is about one mile south-east from Godshill. The situation of this house is extremely fine; it stands in a spacious park, in the midst of an amphitheatre of hills, commanding various extensive and grand prospects. The slope which forms the back-ground is ornamented with beeches of great size, interspersed with large and venerable oaks. The mansion itself is built with free-stone, and, from its magnitude and situation, assumes an air of considerable grandeur, though the singularity of its construction detracts from its magnificence. The interior of this mansion is most superbly decorated with sculptures, paintings, drawing, medals, and other curiosities, selected by Sir Richard Worsley during his travels abroad. The attractions at Appuldurcombe are not confined to the interior of the mansion; the park is well stocked with deer, and the grounds are disposed with much beauty, independent of the advantages they have derived from nature. The prospects also from the eminences are extremely fine. About two miles from Appuldurcombe Park, on the sea-shore, in one of the most beautiful parts of the island, near the church of St. Law-

rence, is an elegant cottage, built by Sir Richard Worsley, and surrounded by grounds of an extremely romantic and picturesque character. Bold fragments of jutting rocks, irregular lawns, a crystal rivulet, and natural groups of fine elms, combine to give interest to the scenery, and, still more to attract attention; on this spot is found the only vineyard in England: a light wine is made from the grapes. The novelty of this plantation, and the peculiar beauty of the coast, have attracted numerous visitants to this part of the island. The church of St. Lawrence is the smallest in the island, and perhaps in the whole kingdom, its length being not more than 20 feet, and its breadth only 12. The greatest part of this parish consists in a slip of land, extending about $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile along the sea-shore, and forming part of the romantic tract, called *Undercliff*. Above this singular region the downs terminate abruptly in a steep precipice of lime-stone rock, assuming the appearance of an immense stone wall. Colossal fragments of stone, torn or sunk from the precipice by some great convulsion of nature, lie scattered in the most irregular and romantic forms. These solid masses are of such ponderous magnitude, that they form eminences of the most capricious shapes; while the intermediate spaces become deep valleys, in which houses are built, and even ashes and elms are seen to flourish, sheltered from the storms and the spray of the sea by the hospitable and lofty shades. Every spot of this land that can bear the impression of a plough is uncommonly fertile. The fruitful patches are of all sizes and figures; and huge rocks, covered with briers, frequently arise from amidst a polygon enclosure of two or three acres. Appuldurcombe may be viewed on application to Mr. Sewell, of Newport, who furnishes tickets by permission of the Hon. C. A. Pelham, its present occupant.

BINSTED church displays marks of considerable antiquity, particularly in the arch which separates the nave and chancel; and in the arch of a door-way, now closed up, on the north side.

BLACK-GANG CHINE, on the south-western declivity of St. Catherine's Hill, commences the rude chasm, distinguished by the name of Black-Gang Chine. The view of this Chine from the shore is very striking; from

the impending and over-hanging cliffs, and the dark hue and nakedness of the mouldering precipices. The grandeur of this scene is much lessened in dry weather, from the want of water; but after hard rains, and in stormy seasons, its appearance is impressively awful. Carriages cannot approach within ¾ of a mile, but the foot-road to the edge of the precipice is tolerably good. There are generally persons on the spot who point out the best path for descending to the beach.

BRADING is an ancient market-town, consisting of one long street of irregular buildings, situated at the upper end of Brading Haven, to which a convenient quay is attached, with store-houses for corn, &c. The church is supposed to be the most ancient foundation of the kind in the island. BRADING HAVEN is an extensive tract of marshy ground, covered every tide by the sea, and, at high water, admitting the passage of small vessels to the quay. The Haven includes between eight and nine hundred acres, and abounds with excellent oysters, mullet, whitings, and flat fish; cockles are also caught here, in great abundance: the gathering them employs a great number of women and children in the summer season.

CARISBROOK CASTLE, about one mile from Newport, is the most ancient, and was formerly the most important fortress in the island. It stands on a high and commanding situation, on a conical eminence, rising above the village of Carisbrook, and occupying about 20 acres of ground. This Castle appears to have been the residence of the lords of the island from the very earliest period; and since it became the property of the crown, it was the constant seat of captains and governors, for whose accommodation a building was erected within its walls; but this is now chiefly occupied by the servants who show the premises. There is also a small chapel of recent date. The adventitious lustre reflected on this fortress, from its having been the scene of the imprisonment of Charles I., attracts all travellers, and few leave the place without a melancholy retrospect of the sufferings of that ill-advised and ill-treated monarch. The well is remarkably wide, and is 300 feet deep; the water is excellent. The Keep is in tolerable preservation, and commands a very extensive prospect over the surrounding

country. This castle is now in ruins, but the wall of the chamber in which King Charles was confined, and the window from which he attempted to escape, are still visible.

EAST COWES is situated on the east side of the mouth of the Medina, or Cowes River, and immediately opposite to West Cowes. Many of the houses are respectable, but the buildings are not arranged in any regular form. This is a place of some trade, from its contiguity to West Cowes; a small custom-house has been built here. On the brow of the neighbouring hill is *East Cowes Castle*, a modern edifice, commanding some fine sea views; this was erected by John Nash, Esq., the present possessor; its appearance is in some degree novel, it consists of one square and two round towers, ornamented with battlements: the interior is disposed with much skill, to suit the domestic economy of a small family.

FERN HILL, on a commanding eminence, near Wootten Bridge. The house bears some resemblance to a church, one end consisting of a handsome and lofty tower, rising above a single apartment of inferior height and breadth at the opposite extremity. The prospect of Spithead, and the adjacent parts of Hampshire, from this eminence, can scarcely be exceeded in beauty by any view in the island.

FRESHWATER CLIFFS. The light-house on the highest point of Freshwater Cliffs, is extremely magnificent, and includes a full view of the Needle Rocks and Allum Bay. The violence of the sea is continually making devastations on this coast. Freshwater is a small village, near Freshwater Gate. The scenery is not remarkable, but Freshwater Gate is interesting from the appearance of the cave, which has been formed by the force of the tide. There is a small inn with tolerable accommodations.

LUCCOMBE CHINE, near Bonchurch. The sides of this ravine are clothed with shrubs and brush-wood; and at the bottom runs a stream of fine water, which, at the termination of the chine, forms a small cascade.

THE NEEDLES, situated at the western extremity of the island, consist of perpendicular rocks in the ocean, at a short distance from the Lighthouse on Freshwater

Cliffs. They derived their name from the appearance of one of them resembling a needle in shape, which was separated from the cliff, and was 120 feet high above low water mark. This stupendous pile disappeared some years ago, and only three of smaller size remain. The view from the end of the cliff overlooking the Needles, and within 500 yards of the lighthouse, is truly picturesque. The view of Allum Bay from this spot is quite enchanting, and the beautiful tints of the rock exhibit every possible variety of colour. The neighbourhood is celebrated for numerous rabbit warrens, and the furze forms an excellent cover for game. Carriages may proceed with safety as far as the light-house.

NEWPORT may be considered as the metropolis of the island, and its situation is high and pleasant: on the east side it is watered by the chief branch of the Medina river, and, on the west, by a small stream which rises at Rayner's Grove. The houses are disposed into five parallel streets, running east and west, and crossed by three others at right angles. The buildings are mostly of brick, and some of them are handsome. The church stands in the centre of one of the squares; it is spacious, but low, and the architecture is of different periods. In this fabric was buried the Princess Elizabeth, second daughter of Charles I., who died a prisoner in Carisbrook Castle at the age of 15. The leaden coffin enclosing her remains, was discovered in a vault under the chancel, in October, 1793.

The markets are plentifully supplied with provision, but especially with poultry and butter; yet the latter is very dear: fish are extremely scarce, and are mostly brought from Southampton. At Michaelmas markets Newport is a scene of great bustle and gaiety. The education of youth has been attended to by the establishment of several schools. Many of the working classes are employed in the manufacture of starch and hair-powder, and in the making of cracknells, biscuits, &c. for the use of the shipping. The places of amusement are a neat theatre, and two elegant assembly rooms. For the promotion of science, a philosophical society has been lately established here. The streets are regularly paved. The town-hall is a large and convenient building. The public

library, called the Isle of Wight Institution, is one of the principal ornaments of Newport. The chief part of the water now used by the inhabitants is brought in water-carts from Carisbrook, and retailed from house to house. On the streams in the vicinity of the town, are several corn mills. Those who are disposed to survey the whole island, generally fix their head quarters at Newport, from the certainty of procuring lodgings; in this case, three principal routes are laid down, denominated from their respective courses, the western, the northern, and the south-eastern; these, with a few shorter trips, include all the scenery and objects worthy of inspection in the island, which may be traversed in five or six days; though the roads are indifferent, and in some parts absolutely impassable for carriages, except in the finest weather: persons who can only devote a short time to view the beauties of the island, may hire a carriage at Newport, West Cowes, and see the principal places in three days. About one mile from Newport, is that admirable institution, the House of Industry. The regulations and bye-laws by which this important establishment is governed, are well calculated to further the advancement of morals and industry. At a short distance are the Albany Barracks, and Military Hospital, which contain every requisite accommodation for upwards of 3,000 soldiers.

Newport sends two members to parliament, and is governed by a mayor, 11 aldermen, and 12 burgesses.

The markets are on Wednesday and Saturday. Fairs, Whitmonday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. The number of houses, 564. Inhabitants, 3,585.

NITON is a small village about 8½ miles from Newport, on the eastern base of the lofty St. Catherine, from whose summit it is about a mile distant. It is sometimes called Crab Niton, although it is a considerable distance from the sea-shore. The church is one of the most ancient in the island: it contains some remains of stained glass. In the church-yard are the steps of a cross supposed to have been used in former times for the purpose of baptism. There is a tolerable inn for the accommodation of travellers.

NORTH-COURT HOUSE, near the village of Shorwell, was erected in the reign of James I., but it has been

since altered, and the interior rendered more convenient: the east front retains its primary and venerable form. The grounds are nearly in the same state as originally disposed, in ranges of small terraces, with seats, and walls for fruit; a small stream rises in a shrubbery near the lawn, and flows southward through the garden.

QUARR ABBEY, near Binstead, was founded originally for Cistercians, and is now in ruins. The situation is very fine: the sea opens on the north, and on the south and east are rich and luxuriant woods. Most part of the boundary wall, which includes upwards of thirty acres of ground, and two gates, are yet standing.

RYDE, an irregular, but flourishing place, nine miles from Newport, forms the principal communication between the Isle of Wight and Portsmouth, and any person wanting to cross, is empowered by act of parliament, to command a boat to go off at any time of the tide, on paying five shillings; the usual charge in the regular boat is only one shilling, and the distance is about six miles. Here are bathing machines, but from the flatness of the shore, the time of bathing varies daily. The accommodations at Ryde have been much improved of late years; the houses have greatly increased, and several good lodging-houses have been opened. There is a handsome wooden pier, which forms a delightful promenade.

ST. BONIFACE, or BONCHURCH. The cottage of St. Boniface is finely seated at the foot of the steep and mountainous eminence of the same name, on a small level plain; the grounds are disposed with much judgment, and possess great natural beauty. Bonchurch cottage stands in a most romantic situation. Nearly opposite is a singular rock, abruptly starting from the ground. The village church, embosomed in fine trees, is a small building, displaying marks of antiquity.

ST. CATHERINE'S HILL, whose western ascent commences near Chale church, is the highest eminence in the island, its summit being 750 feet above high water mark. The prospects are uncommonly fine, including both land and sea views, of great extent. On this eminence stands a sea-mark, called St. Catherine's tower, once part of a chapel dedicated to that saint.

SANDOWN COTTAGE, formerly the elegant retreat

of the late John Wilkes, Esq., is situated near the shore of Sandown bay. The house is small, and elegantly fitted up; in the garden are some detached and pleasant apartments, constructed with floor-cloth of the Kensington manufacture; these were ornamented with much neatness and classic taste by the late owner. The grounds are extremely pleasant, though not extensive. Immediately adjoining to the south-west, a range of barracks has been erected for the accommodation of 300 men.

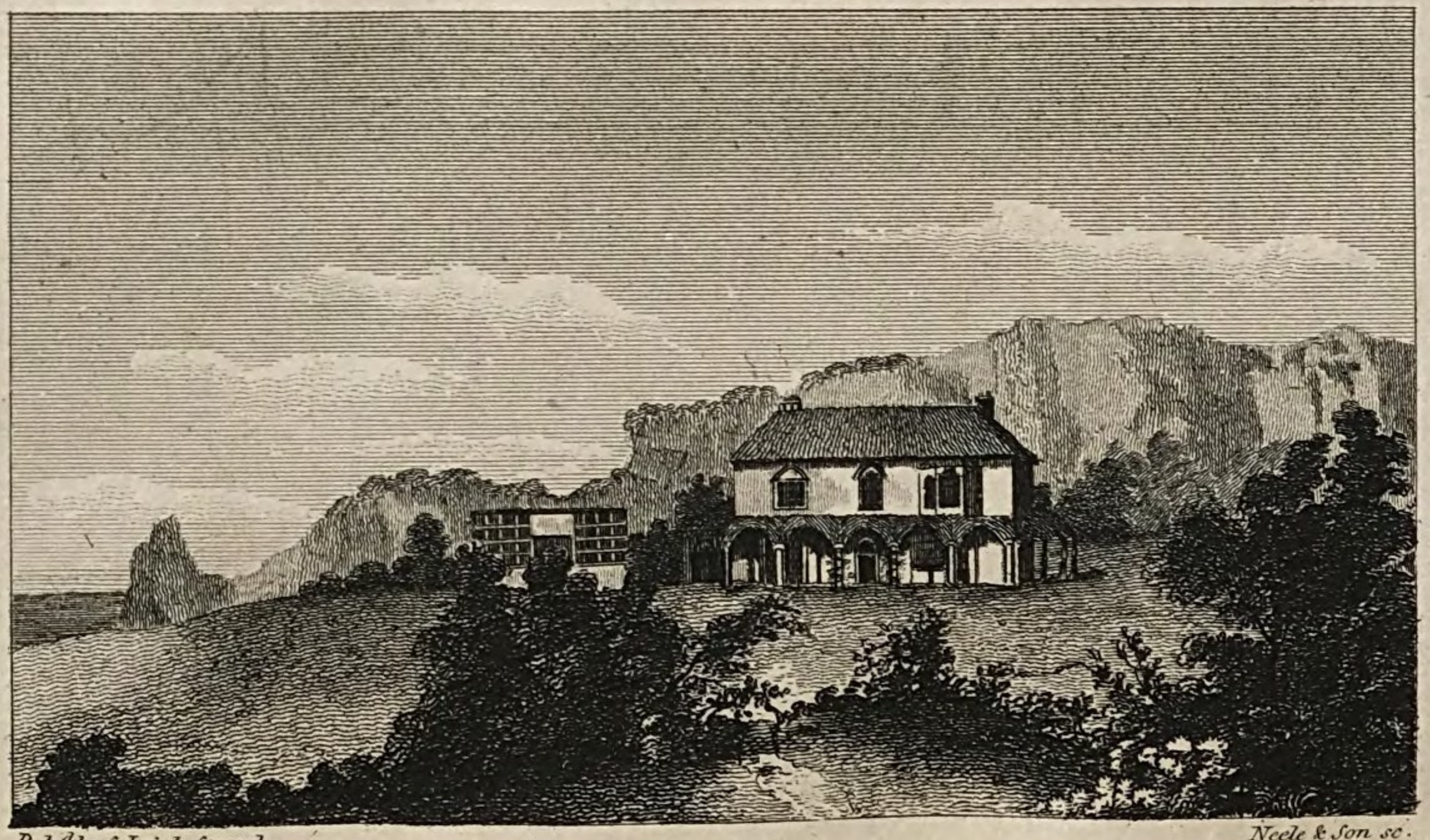
SANDOWN FORT, about half a mile from the cottage, built in the reign of Henry VIII., of late years repaired and strengthened, at the expense of government, and again placed on the military establishment, is now the most considerable fort in the island.

SANDROCK HOTEL, or ROCK COTTAGE, is delightfully situated about two miles from Niton, and commands extensive prospects of the adjacent sea. It was at first intended for a private dwelling, but has since been fitted up for the accommodation of persons visiting the neighbouring spring. The views of the under cliff from this house are remarkably fine, and when viewed from the sea it presents a pleasing object. The Sandrock spring is two miles from Niton, on the east of Blackgang Chine. It is about 500 feet from the shore, and 100 above the level of the sea. It is said to be the strongest aluminous chalybeate spring in existence. There is no carriage road to it, but an indifferent foot-path. In consequence of the great influx of company to this delightful spot, a building has lately been constructed close to the hotel, fitted up in the style of a coffee-house.

SHALFLEET church is an ancient structure, with a low tower of considerable magnitude. Part of it was constructed by the Normans.

SHANKLIN CHINE is a chasm of a similar description to that of Luccombe, but on a more enlarged scale, and infinitely more romantic. On rocky ledges of different elevations, near the mouth of the ravine, are two picturesque cottages, and a small public-house. In the centre of the village of Shanklin is a comfortable inn. The church is small and rustic.

STEEPHILL, in the parish of Godshill, stands on a dismembered rock near the sea, and though small, is fitted



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SANDROCK HOTEL.

up with much elegance. Some beautiful sea-pieces, by Vandevelde, ornament the interior. The cliffs, which are here covered with shrubs and coppice wood, afford a fine and umbrageous canopy over the walks that have been formed beneath. The grounds are laid out with great taste. A few yards below, and almost under Steephill cottage, is the *New Inn*, where parties usually refresh themselves beneath the spreading foliage of a luxuriant fig-tree.

WEST COWES, situated on the declivity of a steep eminence on the west side of the mouth of the Medina, or Cowes river, is now a large and populous place; though its building was not commenced till Henry VIII. erected a castle here, which is yet standing at the entrance of the harbour. The streets are narrow, and ill-built, but from the manner in which they rise one above another from the water's edge, they have a singular and romantic appearance. This town has of late years become the resort of much fashionable company, in consequence of its conveniences for bathing. The hotels are excellent, and carriages of every description may be hired for excursions round the island. The bathing-machines are stationed on a fine beach, to the west of the castle. The trade carried on here is extensive, particularly in provisions and other articles, for the use of the shipping. The appearance of East and West Cowes, on entering it from Southampton, is one of the most enchanting and diversified prospects that can possibly be conceived. A handsome barouche may be hired for a party at 36*s.* per day, the keep of the horses included. This town, including East Cowes, contains 465 houses, and 2,771 inhabitants.

YARMOUTH, 10 miles from Newport, is a seaport, borough, and market town, situated on the east side of the mouth of the river Yar. This town has evident traces of having been much larger than at present. The church is in the middle of the town. The castle, built by Henry VIII., is defended by eight pieces of cannon, and has a garrison. This borough sends two members to parliament, chosen by the corporation. The market-house is a neat building, over which is the town-hall. A packet daily sails to Lymington. This town contains 72 houses, and 343 inhabitants.

HEREFORDSHIRE.

Length 40 miles. Breadth 35. Circumference 200. Square miles 971. Square acres 621,440. Hundreds 11. Market towns, 7. Parishes 213. Houses 19,450. Persons 97,300.—Diocese of Hereford.—Oxford Circuit.—Members to Parliament 8.—Militia men 480.

BOUNDARIES.—On the north of this county lies Shropshire, on the north-east and east Worcestershire, on the south-east Gloucestershire, on the south-west Monmouthshire, on the west Brecknockshire, and on the north-west Radnorshire. Its form is nearly an ellipsis. Its general aspect is extremely beautiful, its surface finely diversified, and broken by swelling heights, and greatly resembling the more central parts of Kent. From many of these elevations the prospects are extremely fine, the fertility of the soil is very great, and the county is clothed in almost perpetual verdure. On every side a luxuriance of vegetation is exhibited in widely-extended corn fields, teeming orchards, expansive meadows, and flourishing plantations. Herefordshire is particularly famous as a cider county; yet this, though a favourite object of its husbandry, is by no means the only one; cattle, sheep, swine, corn, hops, &c., have equally strong claims on the attention of the farmer. Plantations of fruit trees are found in every aspect, and on soil of every quality, and under every culture. This county may be properly termed woodland, many species of trees growing up spontaneously, and becoming strong and vigorous in a very short period; the oak, elm, poplar, and willow, are particularly flourishing; the principal part of the county is enclosed; and as most of the enclosures are bounded by hedge-rows, it has a very sylvan and woody appearance. The roads of Herefordshire have long been proverbially bad. In various parts they are sunk far below the surface of the contiguous grounds, and in other places the steep ascents, and rapid declivities, render them almost impassable; they are also so narrow in some situations, that the carriages cannot pass each other with-

out extreme danger, and in others not at all; even the chief turnpike roads very strongly partake of the same general character. The air and climate vary considerably in different parts and elevations, no air generally being more harsh and unkind than that which comes from the west, probably to be attributed to the extensive tracts of mountainous country, which in that direction are seldom without snow during the winter, and often whitened with it even late in the spring. Some springs near the Malvern Hills were formerly deemed medicinal, and several petrifying, or incrusting springs are met with in the hilly parts of the county, that contain limestone. The *inland* navigation is very imperfect, though scarcely any county, possessing neither iron-works, nor any principal manufacture, can have greater occasion for its aids.

SOIL.—The soil of this county, in its general character, is a mixture of marl and clay, of great fertility, containing a certain proportion of calcareous earth. Deep beds of fine gravel are met with at the site, and in the vicinity of the city of Hereford. Below the surface are strata of lime-stone, often beautifully intersected with veins of red and white, somewhat resembling calcareous spar. Near Snodhill Castle, in the hundred of Webtree, it becomes a species of marble, and was in considerable use and estimation as such during part of the 17th century. Iron ore was discovered in the sandy district of Wormelow hundred, as early as the time of the Romans in Britain; but of late years no iron has been manufactured. Small particles of lead ore have occasionally been found in the lime-works at the north-west part of the county. Many attempts to find coal have been made, but without success. Red and yellow ochres, and tobacco-pipe clay have been found, and fullers' earth is occasionally dug for sale, in small quantities near Stoke. The eastern side of the county is principally a stiff clay, of great tenacity and strength.

AGRICULTURE.—The principal part of the cultivated lands of Herefordshire are under tillage, but the produce is not correspondent to what ought to be grown on lands of such extreme fertility; this is generally attributed to l ad management. The lighter and more sandy soils are

managed with greater skill than the clays, and their produce is proportionally increased. Irrigation is inadequately resorted to, though the numerous rivulets that traverse the county, offer uncommon facilities. The size of farms is generally extensive, the rental of many being from 4 to 500*l.* per annum; the smaller farms are principally from 50 to 100*l.* The construction of many of the farm buildings is rude and unsubstantial. The period at which the cultivation of *orchards* became a pre-eminent branch of the rural economy of England, appears to have been early in the reign of Henry VIII.; the particular era, however, when the plantations of this county acquired the peculiar eminence which they yet retain, was the reign of Charles I. The orchards are of various sizes; some contain from 30 to 40 acres, and the soil is generally kept under tillage; they are found in every aspect, and on soils of every quality and under every culture; great quantities of cider and perry are made, both for provincial use, and the various markets both of the metropolis, and all parts of the kingdom. The Herefordshire cattle are considered as the best breed in this island. The rearing of oxen for agricultural purposes, is very general, nearly half the ploughing of the whole county is performed by them, and they are equally employed in the labours of the harvest. The sheep are almost as much celebrated as the cattle, the name by which they are distinguished is the Ryeland, from a district where the superior varieties are fed. The cultivation of hops also forms a very considerable branch of the rural economy of this county, and is increasing; the best soil for them is a rich dry loam, or gravel, the clayey soils being considered too cold.

Rivers.—The principal rivers and streams of this county are, the Wye, the Lugg, the Munnow, the Arraw, the Frome, the Team, and the Leddon. The Wye has been often celebrated for the extremely picturesque and diversified scenery which adorns its meandering channel. Rising near the summit of the Plinlimmon Hills, it afterwards enters Herefordshire near Clifford, the reputed birth-place of the ill-fated fair Rosamond. This river is navigable to Hereford in barges of from 18 to 40 tons, but either a large or a small supply of water is equally fatal to the na-

vigation. The principal fish taken in the Wye is the salmon, found at all times, but only in perfection between the months of December and August.

The LUGG enters Herefordshire near Stapleton Castle, it receives the Pinsley near Leominster, and is afterwards increased by the waters of the Arrow and the Frome: soon after its junction with the latter river, it falls into the Wye, near the pleasant village of Mordisford.

The MUNNOW rises on the Herefordshire side of the Hatterell Mountains, and is joined near Longtown by the Escle and Olchron rivulets, thence flowing southward through a pleasant and sequestered vale, it is joined near Alterynnis by the Hothny, after which it turns towards Pontrilas, and is increased by the united streams of the Dore and the Werme; it quits the county at Llanrothal, and flowing towards Monmouth, is received by the Wye. The Team or Teme enters this county a short distance from Brampton Bryan, and runs into Shropshire near Ludlow, thence bending to the south, it again enters Herefordshire, but soon leaves it for Worcestershire, where having made a considerable circuit, it once more flows on the borders of this county, and discharges itself into the Severn, between Malvern-chace and Woodberry hill, in Worcestershire.

The LEADON, or LEDDON, rises above Bosbury, on the east side of the county, and, running to the south, gives name to the town of Ledbury, thence flowing into Gloucestershire, it unites with the Severn.

The ARROW enters Herefordshire from Radnorshire, and falls into the Lugg below Leominster.

The FROME rises near Wolfrelow, above Bramyard, and, taking a south course, is joined by the Loden, near Stretton Grandison, when turning to the south-west, it unites with the Lugg above Mordisford.

Remarkable Places.

BEACON. On the summit of one of the highest ridges of the Malvern Hills, and on the very verge of Worcestershire are the immense works of the Herefordshire Beacon, one of the strongest and most important hill fortresses in this island. The vast labour employed in its construction, its amazing belts of ramparts and trenches,

its great extent, its well-chosen situation, its singular irregularity of form, and evident dissimilitude to the modes of fortification observed by the Danes, Saxons, and Romans, all combine to establish its origin, which must unquestionably be ascribed to the Britons. It is almost impossible for words to convey a complete idea of this immensely strong hold; the works are too vast, the heights too unequal, and the base of the eminence too extensive. The views from the summit of this majestic work include a vast extent of country; it is most eminently conspicuous for many miles round, and forms an object of uncommon grandeur.

BRAMPTON BRIAN. Near Pembridge-house, are the ruins of a magnificent strong castle, which chiefly consist of some fragments of walls, and an entrance gate-way, flanked by two round towers, and occupying a low situation, about 100 yards north from the church. A curious chimney, rising like a turret above the curtain, and a stair-case, are tolerably perfect, but all the other interior parts are destroyed.

BURGHOPE HOUSE, five miles from Leominster, now going fast to decay, has ancient mullioned windows, with projecting pointed gables, and curious picturesque chimneys.

CASTLE DITCH, near Eastnor, the seat of Baron Somers of Eversham. The mansion is situated on a fine lawn, having a rivulet flowing on each side; it is a small plain building of white stone, with a portico in front, and projecting semicircular wings. The contiguous grounds are disposed into walks, winding through very thick shrubberies. The park contains some very large and flourishing oaks, and the surrounding eminences are covered with woods.

CLIFFORD CASTLE, on a bold eminence, rising from the banks of the Wye. These picturesque ruins are chiefly massive fragments of wall, overhanging the steep near the river-side. The celebrated Rosamond de Clifford, the fair but unfortunate mistress of Henry II., is said to have been born in this castle.

COURTFIELD, an old mansion, with venerable woods, where, according to tradition, Henry V. was sent from Monmouth, the scene of his birth, to be nursed.

The cradle in which the royal infant was rocked is yet preserved as an invaluable relique.

COXWALL KNOLL CAMP, the last post occupied by the gallant Caractacus, is scarcely a mile to the north of Brampton Brian Park. Its form is irregular, but somewhat approaching to the section of an ellipsis. Within the works and on the banks grow some fine old oaks.

CREDENHILL, 4½ miles from Hereford, is a very high and steep eminence, crowned by a vast camp, surrounded by almost inaccessible works, and forming a very conspicuous object for many miles round.

DOWNTON, 4½ miles from Ludlow, the manor and seat of Richard Payne Knight, Esq., has obtained a very distinguished celebrity; not more perhaps from the natural beauties of the situation, than from the intemperate criticism which has been poured out by unreflecting judges upon the principles that directed the taste of the classic owner in the formation of his house, and disposition of his grounds. This mansion is built with stone, and situated on an elevated bank, commanding a lawn bounded by the river Teme, and surrounded by an extensive amphitheatre of wood, admitting occasional views over a varied and beautiful country. Though consisting of several parts of dissimilar character, each part is uniform in itself; and the whole, from its general union with the contiguous scenery, appears to great advantage. The interior is fitted up with great taste and elegance; and some of the apartments are decorated with a few select pictures by the most eminent masters. The library, though small, contains a very excellent collection of the best authors. With the advantage of a fine mountain river, a profusion of wood, some bold rocks, and a variety of distances, Downton may justly be considered as one of the most picturesque seats in England.

EYWOOD, about two miles from Lyon's Hall, is the principal seat of the Earl of Oxford. The grounds display a great diversity of scenery, and are ornamented with some fine plantat ons.

FAWLEY COURT, about two miles from Caplar Hill, is a venerable mansion of the time of Queen Elizabeth; the entrance, great hall, and dining parlour, are entire,

and in good repair: a handsome farm-house has been formed from the offices.

GOODRICH CASTLE, three miles from Ross. These massive ruins were the baronial residence of the Talbots, Earls of Shrewsbury. The Keep is evidently of a date antecedent to the conquest; but the surrounding works are principally Norman, though various additions and alterations may be distinguished of the workmanship of different periods, even down to the time of Henry VI. Almost every part has yielded to the iron tooth of age, and to the more speedy demolition of war. The ruins, however, are extremely grand; the massive towers are finely mantled with ivy; and even the great ditch is embellished with the luxuriant foliage of tall forest trees: from the adjoining grounds, the crumbling turrets have a striking and interesting effect, as they have also when seen from the water, the view from which has been truly characterized as one of the grandest on the Wye. The prospects from several parts of the castle itself are extremely fine.

HAMPTON COURT, five miles from Leominster, the principal seat of the Earl of Essex, is a large magnificent structure, situated on a spacious lawn of nearly 100 acres, and protected on the north-east by an eminence covered with luxuriant foliage. This noble pile partakes partly of the castellated and partly of the monastic character; the interior is commodious, and many of the apartments are fitted up with great taste. One of the apartments, furnished in a splendid manner with crimson damask hangings, and bed and canopy of the same, remains precisely in the same state as when used by William III. In the library is an ebony casket, in which is contained the handkerchief applied by Lord Coningsby to the wound received by King William at the battle of the Boyne. Among the very valuable paintings preserved in this mansion are some interesting pieces by C. Jansen, Holbein, Vandyck, Lely, Kneller, and Reynolds. The scenery round this mansion is in a high degree picturesque and beautiful. The park is between seven and eight miles in circumference, and contains fine timber.

HAREWOOD is an ancient residence of the Hoskyns family. The mansion is a plain structure, but has been

much improved and partly rebuilt. The park is well wooded, and contains some very fine timber. In this precinct some authors have placed the scene of the tragical death of Earl Ethelwold, supposed to have been assassinated by King Edgar, for his conduct with respect to the fair Elfrida.

HOLM LACEY, six miles from Hereford, is a venerable seat belonging to the Duke of Norfolk. The mansion remains unaltered, as a perfect specimen of the style of building preferred by our immediate ancestors. We can still survey the apartments which Pope so frequently visited, and where he wrote his Man of Ross. The family portraits, and the elaborate carvings by Gibbons, but little inferior to those at Petworth and Chatsworth, are still a part of their venerable ornaments. A mansion like this, preserved in a complete state from the incongruities of modern alteration, may be ranked among our national curiosities. The apartments are decorated with many valuable paintings by Vandyck, Jansen, Holbein, and other artists of eminent merit. The grounds are very pleasant; the old garden, on the south front, was formed on the model of Hampton Court, in Middlesex, and with a very spacious terrace. The yew-trees, which are disposed in straight lines, having been originally clipped into grotesque shapes, and for many years left to regain their foliage, very nearly resemble the cypresses of a Turkish cemetery. Near the parsonage-house is a remarkable pear-tree, covering nearly a quarter of an acre, and forming an orchard of itself. For many years together its fruit has yielded from 12 to 16 hogsheads of perry.

HEREFORD, 135 miles from London, is situated on the banks of the Wye, near the centre of the county. Among the public buildings of Hereford, the cathedral, though deprived of much of its venerable appearance by the fall of the west front in the year 1786, still stands pre-eminently conspicuous. The west end has since been rebuilt, under the direction of Mr. Wyatt, and the whole cathedral repaired. The sepulchral memorials in this structure are still numerous, though many were defaced and swept away at the Reformation; others were demolished in the time of the civil wars, when the library

and other parts suffered greatly. Many are concealed by the pews in the north transept, and more (brasses) were accidentally sold amongst the old materials, disposed of after the general repair in 1786. Previous to the civil wars Hereford contained five distinct churches. Besides the cathedral, various monasteries and religious houses existed in this city and its suburbs previous to the reformation; but most of them are now down, and the sites are occupied by other buildings. On the north side of the city, beyond the wide marsh gate, are some remains of a monastery of Black friars. The principal vestiges of this establishment are some decayed offices, and the remains of a cross, or stone pulpit, as it was originally built. About 40 or 50 yards south-east from the ruins of the Black friars is Conings by's Hospital, a charitable foundation. Among the charitable establishments those of the most ancient date are St. Giles's Hospital, and St. Ethelbert's alms-house. Several other hospitals and alms-houses, both for men and women, are distributed through this city and its suburbs; and various tablets of donations for the support of the poor, are hung up in the different churches. The relief of the sick has also been attended to in the establishment of a general infirmary, for the reception of 70 persons, with every convenience for attendants and nurses. The new county gaol is enclosed with a high brick wall, having a handsome rusticated gateway with Tuscan pillars. The keeper's apartments have also a rustic front and pediment. The prison itself is spacious, having a house of correction, workshop, inspection-room, infirmary, chapel, debtors' rooms, &c.; together with four courts, having gardens in them. The city gaol bears marks of considerable antiquity, and contains one small cell, and three very high apartments, with a window in each, the whole very dry and clean; a dungeon beneath, once used for the purposes of confinement, has been converted into a cellar. The castle is now almost obliterated; the only vestige of any part of the building being a fragment at the south-west corner now converted into a dwelling. The shire hall, which stands in the area, called the high town, nearly in the centre of Hereford, is composed principally of wood, and now consists of only one floor, supported on three ranges of pillars.

Under the shire hall the markets for grain and fish are held; at the east end is the butchers' market, and at the west end the poultry and butter markets. The corporation consists of a mayor, aldermen, and common council, having a steward, common clerk, a prothonotary, as word-bearer, and four serjeants at mace. The common council consists of 31 persons, including the mayor and six aldermen. The first return of members to parliament made by this city was in the 23d of Edward I. The right of election is vested in the freemen only, whose number amounts to about 1,200. The situation of Hereford, on the banks of the Wye, would be extremely favourable for its trade, if the navigation of that river was less precarious. The principal manufacture carried on here is that of gloves, which is tolerably flourishing; and some progress has recently been made in the manufacture of flannels; hats are also made by a few manufacturers. The theatre of Hereford has some claims to notice, from having been the nursery of a Clive, a Siddons, and a Kemble. The present theatre is a very neat modern building, standing on the west side of the broad street; and having a pediment ornamented with busts, &c. Other sources of amusement are derived from assembly-rooms, with balls and occasional concerts. The city of Hereford in general is well built; the streets clean and spacious: but there is no manufacture of consequence.

The markets are on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, and on St. Andrew's Day. Fairs, first Tuesday after February 2, Wednesday in Easter week, July 1, and October 20. Number of houses 1,392; inhabitants 6,828.

INGESTON HOUSE, is an old and spacious brick mansion, long the residence of the Hoskyns family, and recorded as the place where Serjeant Hoskyns entertained James I., by causing the Maurice dance to be exhibited before him by 10 old people, natives of Herefordshire, whose collective ages amounted to more than 1,000 years.

IVINGTON CAMP, two miles from Leominster, a strong fortification divided into two parts by a more modern entrenchment than the outer works; this is supposed to be the camp occupied by Owen Glendour, on his retreat before the army of Prince Henry.

LADY LIFT, two miles from Sarnsfield, is a celebrated eminence from the summit of which the prospects burst upon the view with uncommon grandeur and sublimity; the vast extent of country, the great diversity and variety of its features, the numerous orchards, corn-fields, hop-grounds, and meadows, intermingled with castles, seats, and villages, bounded by a bold range of distant mountains, all unite in the composition of a scene which the powers of language are as incompetent to describe, as the art of the pencil is inadequate to delineate.

LEDBURY, 15 miles from Leominster, is a market town, near the extremity of the Malvern Hills. The town is well-built, and inhabited by many clothiers, who carry on a good trade; it has a charity school, and well endowed hospital.

The market is on Tuesday. The fairs on Monday before Easter, 22 June, 2 October, and 21 December. Number of houses, 577. Inhabitants, 3,058.

LEOMINSTER, 137 miles from London, is situated in a very rich and fertile vale, abounding with orchards, hop-yards, fine meadows, and arable lands. The river Lugg flows on its north and east sides; two smaller streams run through the town, and three other considerable rivulets pass it within half a mile. Its extent, from north to south, is nearly a mile; and from east to west, about half that distance. The suburbs are ill-built, and the streets in the centre of the town are narrow, but the stranger must be highly amused by the variety of old timber and plaster houses, fantastically adorned with curious grotesque carvings, and coloured white and black; most of the modern buildings, however, are respectable edifices of brick. The church, in its present state, is irregular, both in its form and architecture: the whole of that part of the structure appropriated to divine service, was erected at the beginning of the last century, the old church, which seems to have been a magnificent fabric, having been partly destroyed on the 18th of March, 1700, by an accidental fire. The town hall, or butter cross, as it is commonly termed, at Leominster, is a singular building, constructed of timber and plaster, about the year 1633. A new gaol was built here about the year 1750. The trade of the town is flourishing, the clothing trade gives employ-

ment to a considerable number of the inhabitants; and the hat trade is also carried on to some extent; the wool grown in the neighbourhood is proverbially excellent; the cider manufactured here is also held in much estimation, and the hops are likewise in great repute. The corporation consists of a bailiff, chief steward, recorder, 24 capital burgesses, a chamberlain, two serjeants at mace, and some inferior officers; the members of parliament are chosen by the corporation and inhabitants paying scot and lot; the number of voters is about 500.

The market is on Friday. Fairs on the 13th February, Tuesday after Midlent Sunday, 2 May, 10 July, 4 September, and 8 November. Number of houses, 687. Inhabitants, 3,019.

PENYARD CASTLE, 2 miles from Ross. This fortress, originally but of small extent, is now reduced to comparative insignificance; the only part now honoured with the name of castle, is the habitation of a woodward; the humble dwelling has a pointed window, and an octagonal embattled chimney; in the garden which occupies part of the area of the fortress, some massy fragments of wall may yet be seen, together with groined arches, and vestiges of pillars.

ROSS, 12 miles from Hereford, is situated upon a rock, considerably elevated above the river Wye, and on its eastern bank. The notoriety which this town has obtained from its inhabitant John Kyrle, the celebrated man of Ross, has given it a degree of attraction far beyond its local importance. The exemplary tenour of his actions, his extensive charities, and goodness of heart, procured him the love and veneration of all his cotemporaries; and happily for his fame, Pope, during his visits at Holm Lacey, obtained a sufficient knowledge of his beneficence, to render due homage to his worth in his moral essays. The house in which Mr. Kyrle resided, is now the King's Arms, a respectable inn, near the entrance of the town from Gloucester; and a tolerable portrait of him is preserved; the original likeness is in the possession of Lord Muncaster; he died in 1724, at the age of 84, and was buried in Ross church. On his monument is a medallion of Charity, supported by Benevolence. The peculiar salubrity of the air at Ross may be illustrated by

referring to the longevity of its inhabitants, not only in living instances, but in many memorials among the tombs in the church and church-yard. The church is a handsome building, having a tower, and well-proportioned spire, rising from the west end. Ross is governed by a serjeant, and four constables. The streets are mostly on a descent, and are extremely rough and narrow, the houses appearing huddled upon each other. The market house is in a very decayed state. Since the beauties of picturesque scenery have engaged so much popular attention, this town has become a favourite resort for the numerous summer parties who visit the Wye; and boats, &c. are kept here for the accommodation of those who make an excursion down the river.

The market is on Thursday. The fairs on Ascension Day, Corpus Christi, from 20 to 25 July, October 10, and December 11. Number of houses, 521. Inhabitants, 2,347.

STOKE, eight miles from Ledbury, the principal seat of the Foleys, in this county. The mansion is a spacious brick building, with wings, erected soon after the estate was purchased into this family, and standing in a very pleasant park, on a kind of terrace. The hall displays some fine paintings, by Sir James Thornhill, and in the other apartments is a good collection of family portraits. The park and grounds are well wooded, and display some very fine scenery; the shrubberies are extensive, and the park is stocked with deer.

WIGMORE CASTLE, seven miles from Ludlow. These ruins are now almost enveloped by a mantle of rich ivy. The outward wall is the most perfect; though of this a very considerable part is destroyed. Within the area of a high artificial hill, are the ruins of the keep, chiefly consisting of a massive fragment, overlooking the country to the north and east, with much grandeur. On the hills west of the castle, were two parks, now ploughed up and cultivated.

WILTON CASTLE, near Ross, for several centuries the baronial residence of the Greys. Its present demolished state was owing to the Royalist Governors of Hereford, by whose orders it was burnt to the bare walls during the reign of Charles I. The remaining towers display a luxuriant mantling of ivy.

HERTFORDSHIRE.

Length 36 miles. Breadth 28. Circumference 190. Square miles 602. Square acres 385,280. Hundreds 8. Market towns 19. Parishes 132. Houses 20,902. Persons 115,400.—Diocese of London and Lincoln.—Home Circuit.—Members to Parliament 6.—Militia men 560.

BOUNDARIES.—This county is separated from Essex by the rivers Lea and Stort. On the south, it is bounded by Middlesex; on the west, and part of the north, by Buckinghamshire, with which it is intermixed in a singular manner; as it is also with Bedfordshire: the latter county bounds the remainder of the west and north sides, excepting for a few miles towards the north-east, where it unites with Cambridgeshire; on the east, along its whole line, it is bounded by Essex. Most of the county is enclosed; and the enclosures, being principally live hedges intermixed with flourishing timber, have a verdant and pleasing effect. Independent of the wood thus distributed in hedge-rows, large quantities of very fine timber are grown in the parks and grounds belonging to the numerous seats of the nobility and gentry. The landed property in Hertfordshire is greatly divided. The largest estate in the county is about the annual value of 7,000*l.* Several others are averaged at from 3,000*l.* to 4,000*l.* annually; and there are many at 2.000*l.*, and below that sum. By far the greatest portion of Hertfordshire is under tillage. As a corn country, it is considered as one of the first in England, and was so reputed even at the beginning of the last century. The woodlands of Hertfordshire are extensive. The whole country is interspersed with small woods and copses. The quantity of waste lands is inconsiderable. The aggregate does not appear to exceed 4,500 acres; and of this extent many acres are appropriated as sheep-downs. The principal roads in Hertfordshire are very good, being chiefly turnpike, leading directly from the metropolis. The cross-roads partake of a similar character.

SOIL.—The prevailing soils in this county are loam and

clay; the former is met with in almost all its gradations and is more or less intermingled with flints or sand. The vales through which the rivers and brooks take their course, are chiefly composed of a rich sandy loam. The loam district extends westward from the river Bean, over the greatest part of the county. The most productive of the sandy loams are found on the west side of the river Lea, extending in a line of between two and three miles in breadth. The principal clay district is on the north-east or Essex side. The pure clay of the stiff, harsh, and tenacious kind, extends on the south side in a line from one to three miles in breadth. In the parishes of Northall and North Mims, and lower part of that of Hatfield, the general description of soil is extremely sterile. Chalk prevails generally on the northern side of the county. The basis, indeed, of the whole county is chalk, though the depths at which it is found are very different. The grass lands of Hertfordshire, compared with those under tillage, are extremely small. The meadows on the river Stort, which extend from Hockerill to Hertford, are very productive, as are those in the vicinity of the Lea, and in the neighbourhood of Rickmansworth, &c. The many streams which intersect the land are extremely favourable to irrigation, though that system is not carried on to any great extent.

AGRICULTURE.—Most of the resident nobility consider the promotion of agriculture as a primary object of pursuit; and hence almost every park or pleasure-ground is connected with a farm. The produce in wheat, barley, and oats is very considerable. Large quantities of turnips are also grown; and artificial grasses are cultivated to a very great extent. Turnips and clover are supposed to have been introduced into this county in the time of Oliver Cromwell. Swedish turnips are here deservedly held in great estimation. The clover grounds are sometimes appropriated to lucerne and trefoil. Saint-foin, rye-grass, and tares, are also grown in this county; and the culture of cabbages and potatoes is much attended to. The system of drill-husbandry has not made any considerable progress in Hertfordshire. The spirited manner in which manures are employed in this county tend greatly to increase the products of the soil. Chalk obtained from

pits sunk for the purpose within the district is very generally in use; and night-soil and stable dung, brought from the capital at considerable expense, have also a very extensive appropriation. Soot, ashes, and bones, are used in considerable quantities. Oil-cake, peat-ashes, woollen rags, hair, and various other substances, are also employed for manure in different parts of the county. The use of the sheep-fold is very general. The principal agricultural implements employed are large wheel ploughs, worked by three or four horses, the swing-plough, the Hereford plough, the skim-coulter, and the thrashing-mill. In the south-west corner of the county are many orchards. Apples and cherries are their principal produce. The size of the orchards seldom exceeds four or five acres; and their greatest value is not more than 4*l*. per acre. As the land in this county is chiefly arable, live-stock has become an object of very inferior regard. The sheep are mostly ewes, of the South Down and Wiltshire breeds. The horses are of various kinds; the Suffolk appears to have the preference. The buildings and offices on the most considerable farms are well arranged and convenient.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers in Hertfordshire are the Lea, the Rib, the Quin, the Beane, the Gade, the Colne, the Ver, or Meuse, and the Mineran, or Maran. The LEA rises near Luton, in Bedfordshire, and entering this county at Hide Mill, proceeds through Whethampstead, Brocket Park, and Hatfield Park, and flows past Hertford and Ware. One mile east from Hoddesdon it flows through the pleasant meadows of Broxbourn, Wormley, and Cheshunt, and finally quits the county near Waltham Abbey.

The RIB has its rise near Cornybury, and is joined below Braughing by the QUIN. It passes Standon, Berwicks, and Wades Mill, and falls into the Lea between Hertford and Ware.

The BEANE rises near Cromer, flows past Watton, and through Wood-Hall Park, and meets with the Lea at Hertford.

The GADE has its origin on the borders of Buckinghamshire; proceeding by Hemel Hempstead, it is joined near Two Waters by the *Bulbourne*. The Gade, thus enlarged, runs to the east of King's Langley; and flowing through

the Grove and Cashiobury Park, near Rickmansworth, falls into the Colne, having previously received the waters of the Chesham river.

The COLNE is formed by the union of several small streams, uniting in the vicinity of North Mims. It is increased near Colney Street by the Ver, or Meuse river, from St. Alban's, and flowing on to Watford, runs by the south of Rickmansworth; then leaves this county, and enters Middlesex.

The VER:, or MEUSE, rises near Market Street, passes Redburn and Redburn Bury; thence proceeding towards St. Alban's, it crosses that town at St. Michael's bridge, and flows on towards the Sopwell Nunnery; afterwards it unites with the Colne, which is but a very inconsiderable stream till thus enlarged by the waters of the Meuse.

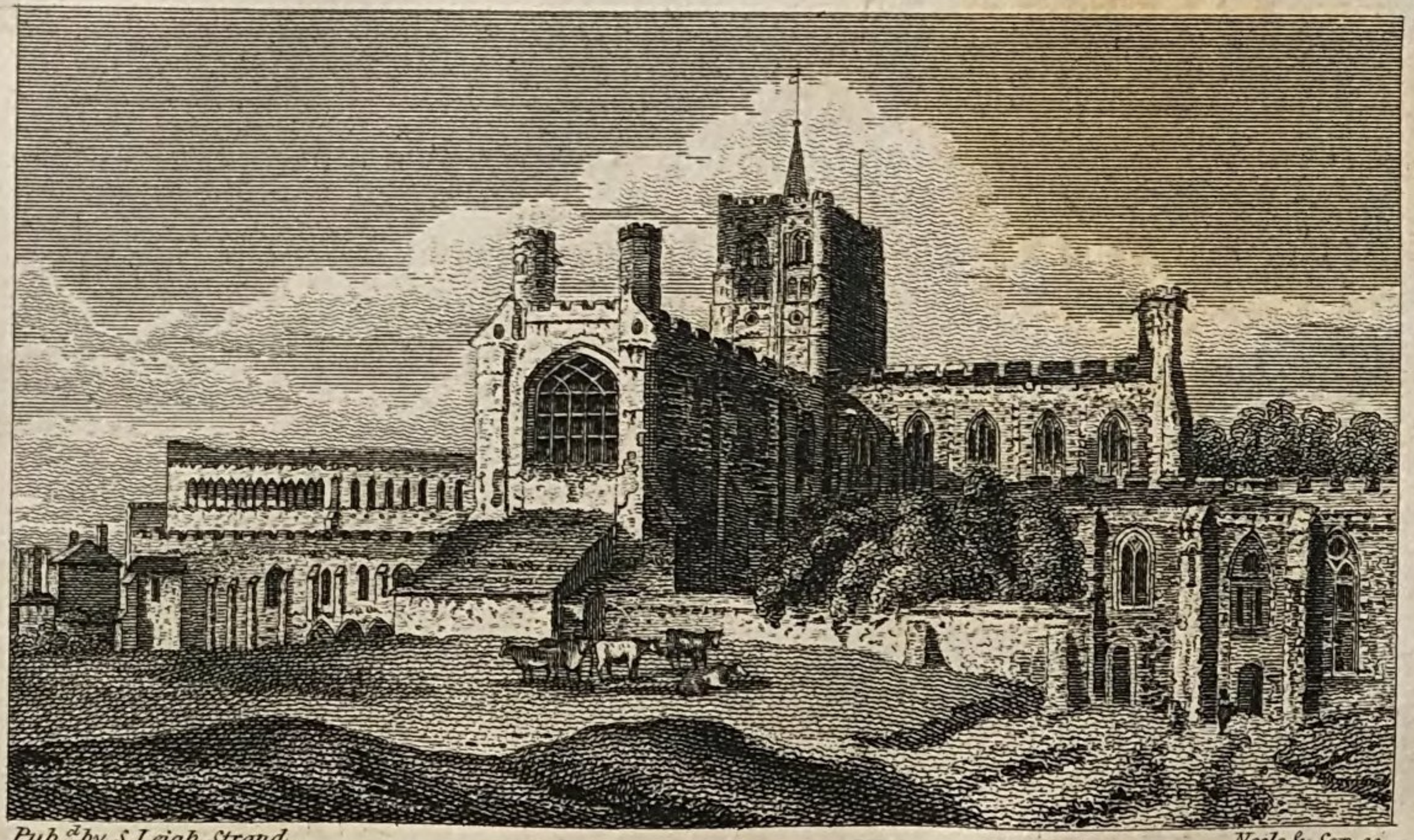
The MINERAM, or MARAN, has its source in the vicinity of King's Walden, and flows on in a meandering course till it falls into the Lea at Hertford.

Many other streams rise in this county, and several of them form the heads of more considerable streams in the adjacent shires.

The few *medicinal springs* which rise in Hertfordshire are chiefly *chalybeate*. Some incrustating springs have been noticed near Clothall, in the northern part of the county.

Remarkable Places.

ALBANS, ST., 21 miles from London, is a borough and market town. Two sanguinary battles were fought in this town, between the houses of York and Lancaster. The first was fought on the 23d of May 1455, between Henry VI. and the Duke of York, in which the latter was victorious. The second on the 17th of February, 1461, between Margaret of Anjou and the celebrated Earl of Warwick, in which the latter was defeated. The very curious and interesting church of St. Alban, together with its rich screens and monuments, display some of the finest specimens of architectural grandeur in Great Britain. St. Peter's church stands on elevated ground, at the north-east extremity of the town; the interior has a very light and elegant appearance; the church-yard is ex-



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St. Albans Abbey.

tremely spacious, and contains numerous monuments. The principal charitable foundation at St. Albans, is locally named the *Buildings*, built and endowed by Sarah, duchess of Marlborough. Several schools for the instruction of the children of the poor have been instituted here, and are supported by voluntary contributions, and other patronage. The corporation officers consist of a mayor, 12 aldermen, 24 assistant burgesses, a high steward, a recorder, a town-clerk, a coroner, &c. The mayor is chosen annually, on St. Matthew's day. The right of election of members to parliament is vested in the mayor, aldermen, and freemen, and in such householders only as pay scot and lot; the number of voters is about 516. At the bottom of Holywell Hill, in St. Albans, is *Holywell House*, principally erected by Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough. The grounds, though not extensive, are pleasingly varied; the trees are of almost every description.

The *Holywell*, from which the estate has derived its name, is on the lawn adjacent to the garden front; it is still held in some degree of estimation, for its purity and salubrious qualities. In the church formerly belonging to the abbey are the tombs of king Offa, the founder, St. Alban the Martyr, and Humphrey, duke of Gloucester. Near this town Cæsar defeated Cassibelan, and Boadicea massacred 70,000 Romans and Romanised Britons. In St. Michael's church is the monument of Sir Francis Bacon.

The market is on Saturday, the fairs on March 25th, June 22d, August 15th, and September 29th. The number of houses 730; inhabitants 4,304.

BALLS, near Hertford, the property of the Marquis Townshend. The house stands in a very pleasant park, and commands an extensive view over the surrounding country. It was built in the time of Charles I.

BERKHAMSTEAD CASTLE was situated on the east side of the town, 26½ miles from London, and though the buildings are now reduced to a few massive fragments of wall, the remains are still sufficient to evince the ancient strength and importance of this fortress. The inner court is now an orchard, the outer court is cultivated as a farm, and a small cottage, with a few out-buildings, now occupy a portion of the ground once inhabited by princes and sovereigns.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD, eight miles from Ware. On the east side of the town are some remains of an ancient castle, called *Waytemore*, on a piece of ground environed by the Stort. The church is dedicated to St. Michael, and is situated on a commanding eminence, possessing numerous monuments, and sepulchral tablets. The extent and population of Bishop's Stortford are considerable. The trade of the town has been increased by a canal. In the High street is a square building, having the market-place and shops beneath, and a grammar-school above, connected with a library, and writing school.

BROCKET HALL, near Hatfield. The site of the ancient manor-house is now occupied by a handsome dwelling, completed by Lord Viscount Melborne; the apartments are decorated with many fine paintings by the first masters. The park and grounds are very beautiful.

BROOKMANS, near Hatfield, in the parish of North Mims, was formerly the property of the great Lord Somers.

BROXBOURN, 15¾ miles from London, is situated on a rising ground, with meadows down to the river Lea. The church is a handsome fabric, probably of the time of Henry VI. The chapel on the north side was built in the reign of Henry VIII., and the workmanship is in a very superior style; this church contains many fine and ancient monuments. Number of houses 64,—inhabitants 371.

BROXBOURN BURY. This seat is a spacious edifice, standing in the midst of a pleasant park. Sir Henry Cook entertained James I. in this mansion, in his progress from Scotland.

CASHIOBURY, near Watford, one of the beautiful seats of the Earl of Essex, is a spacious edifice, pleasantly situated in an extensive park, through which flows the river Gade, and across which has been carried the Grand Junction Canal. The mansion contains a number of elegant apartments, together with a kind of cloister, the windows of which have been very recently ornamented with painted glass, executed in a very superior style. Many fine pictures ornament the rooms.

CHESHUNT HOUSE, near Hoddesdon, formerly the residence of Cardinal Wolsey, is a plain brick structure, but has been much modernized since Wolsey inhabited it.

COLNEY HOUSE, near St. Albans, is built with Tittenhoe stone, and was erected by Governor Bouchier, at an expense of about 53,000*l*. The park includes about 150 acres. The principal apartments are fitted up with taste and elegance; the chimney-pieces are all of marble, and the doors of mahogany. The park contains some fine oak and elm timber. The green-house, a very large range of building, is full of choice plants, both indigenous and exotic.

GLADSMERE HEATH, near Barnet. On this spot was fought that most decisive battle between the houses of York and Lancaster, in which the Lancastrians were totally defeated, and Richard Neville, the great earl of Warwick, lost his life. To commemorate this memorable battle, an obelisk was erected, near the spot where the road divides towards Hatfield and St. Albans. On this obelisk is a short inscription, recording the date of the battle, and the defeat and death of the Earl of Warwick.

GOBIONS, two miles from Hatfield, a seat in North Mims parish. In Henry VII.'s time, it was the property of Sir John More, father of the illustrious Sir Thomas More; it was afterwards seized, with other estates of Sir Thomas More, by Henry VIII., and was settled on the Princess Elizabeth, who retained it till her death. The gardens were formerly celebrated for their splendour in the ancient taste.

GORHAMBURY, near St. Albans, was formerly the property and residence of the great Lord Bacon, who erected a new mansion, at a short distance westward from that which now forms the residence of Lord Grimston, and here he was frequently visited by the queen, who dated many of her state papers from Gorhambury. This house appears to have formed a quadrangle; but the chief parts that are now standing, are the ruins of the hall, which constituted the inner side of the court, and a high octagonal tower, commanding some good views over the surrounding country, though now too decayed to be ascended. This mansion of the Bacons was reduced to ruins, when the present house of the Lords Grimston was built, between the years 1778 and 1785. Gorhambury house is a spacious stone edifice, of the Corinthian order, connected with two wings, built of brick, and stuccoed. The hall,

with the library, and the other principal apartments, are large, and decorated with a rich collection of portraits, chiefly of the age of Elizabeth and her immediate successors.

The GROVE, two miles from Watford, the property and chief residence of Earl Clarendon. The mansion is an irregular structure of brick, in a park about three miles in circumference. The principal apartments contain a very valuable collection of original portraits, chiefly of the times of James I. and Charles I., as well as a few fine copies from the first masters.

WATTON WOOD HALL, a beautiful seat, occupies one of the finest situations in the county. It is a spacious and elegant mansion, standing on an eminence in a large park, nobly diversified by hill and dale, and watered by several small streams. The present mansion was erected by Sir Thomas Rumbold, and is fitted up with great taste and elegance.

HATFIELD HOUSE, 19½ miles from London, occupies a beautiful situation in a finely diversified park, watered on the north side by the river Lea. This mansion is of brick, and of vast extent. Many improvements have been made of late years, particularly by the last Earl of Salisbury, who restored the ancient magnificence of this venerable edifice, and again rendered it an habitation worthy of the Cecils. Many of the apartments are very large; and most of them are decorated with pictures of considerable merit and curiosity. The park and grounds contain some of the finest timber in the county: the scenery is very beautiful; the walks are said to have been originally laid out, and the woods planted by the famous Le Notre; but they have since been greatly improved and enlarged.

HEMEL HEMPSTED, 8½ miles from Watford, is a market town, pleasantly situated on rising ground, at a short distance from the river Gade. The church appears to have been erected in the Norman times, but has been much altered and enlarged, at subsequent periods. The market house is a plain edifice of wood; the shambles, near it, form a neat range of brick building. The charitable donations are not numerous. Great quantities of corn are annually sold in this town; and its contiguity to

the Grand Junction Canal has produced a beneficial effect on its trade. In its vicinity are several paper mills.

The market is on Thursday. The fair on the Thursday after Trinity Monday. The number of houses, 481. Inhabitants, 2,722.

HERTFORD, 21 miles from London, is a town of considerable antiquity, but of uncertain origin; though it is known to have attained importance very early in the Saxon times. Numerous privileges and immunities have been granted to Hertford, by various sovereigns, since the time of the Conqueror, who first incorporated the borough by charter. Charles II. vested the corporation in a mayor, recorder, 10 aldermen, a chamberlain, 16 assistants, and other officers; and, under this charter, the borough is now governed. The right of electing two members of parliament is vested in the inhabitant householders, resident freemen, &c. The number of voters is about 580. All Saints, the principal church, is a large edifice, possessing numerous monuments; there are also many sepulchral memorials in St. Andrew's Church. The sessions and market house, and town-hall, are handsome brick edifices. The Blue Coat School is a large building at the east end of the town, capable of accommodating upwards of 500 children. In this town is also a good grammar school, endowed by various benefactors.

The market is on Saturday. The fairs on the 2d Saturday before Easter Sunday, Old May Day, Old Midsummer Day, and November 8th. The number of houses, 515. Inhabitants, 3,360.

HITCHIN, 34 miles from London, is a large and ancient town, situated in a fertile valley. The church is a handsome structure of stone, occupying the site of a more ancient fabric near the middle of the town, and apparently of the age of Henry VI., or Edward IV. The Sepulchral monuments in this church are very numerous, and some very fine brasses, both of the fifteenth, and the following century, appear in different parts of the church.

The market is on Tuesday. The fairs on Easter Tuesday, and Whit Tuesday. The number of houses, 667. Inhabitants, 3,161.

HUDSON HOUSE has been reduced, but has still a venerable appearance, and is surrounded by a moat.

Prince Edward and his sisters, Mary and Elizabeth, appear to have resided here for several years. The Princess Mary also resided here when Lady Jane Grey was proclaimed queen, after the death of Edward VI.

OFFLEY PLACE, three miles from Hitchin, is a large and interesting building of the time of Elizabeth, built by Sir Richard Spencer, about the year 1600, as appears from an inscription in the church.

PANSHANGER, four miles from Hertford, is the delightful residence of Earl Cowper. The house has been improved and enlarged, and the grounds, though small, are pleasant, being animated by the vicinity of the river Maran. Among the oaks is one which has been called the great oak for upwards of a century; it is now a very healthy and luxuriant tree, and measures 17 feet in girth, about five feet from the ground; the lowermost branches issue at about the height of 12 feet.

RICKMANSWORTH, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Watford, is a small market town, occupying a low moorish situation. The church is a spacious building dedicated to the Virgin Mary. The situation of this town in the vicinity of several streams, renders it very convenient for trades that require the aid of water. At the entrance of the town from the south, are a large cotton and flour mill, a flock mill, and a silk mill; and, on the rivulet that flows from Chesham, are several paper mills, &c. The manufacture of straw-plat furnishes additional employment, particularly to girls and women. The market house is a mean wooden fabric, supported on pillars, and open beneath.

The market is on Saturday. The fairs on the 20th July, Saturday before the third Monday in September, and 24th November. The number of houses, 490. Inhabitants, 2,975.

ROYSTON, 38 miles from London, is a market town, situated among the Chalk Downs. At the bottom of the principal street, and immediately beneath the market-place, is the cave. The interior of this very curious, and probably unique, subterraneous apartment, is completely circular, finishing in a kind of dome above, broken only by the original entrance.

The market is on Wednesday. The fairs on Wednesday, in Shrove, Easter, and Whitsun weeks, 1st Wednes-

day in July, and Wednesday after 10th October. The number of houses, 270. Inhabitants, 1,831.

RYE HOUSE, near Hoddesdon, in Stansted parish, a building that has been celebrated from its having been tenanted by one of the persons engaged in the real or pretended conspiracy to assassinate Charles II., and the Duke of York, on their return to London, from Newmar ket. The Rye house was originally built, under a license from Henry VI. Some remains of the ancient structure, principally consisting of a gate-house, are yet standing, and have for many years been converted into a work-house.

TEWING HOUSE, 4½ miles from Hertford, was re-built, in a magnificent manner, by General Sabine, who embellished it with paintings of the battles of the Duke of Marlborough. At Tewing Water has been erected a new and handsome house. The grounds and scenery are very pleasant.

TRING, four miles from Wendover, is a small and irregular town, situated on the north-western side of the county, on the high road to Aylesbury. The church is a large and well-proportioned regular building, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul. Tring Park is a beautiful seat, pleasantly varied by bold swells, and commanding eminences. The house is a large and convenient building.

WALTHAM CROSS, 11½ miles from London, a hamlet in Cheshunt parish, derives its name from one of those elegant stone crosses, which the pious affection of Edward I. induced him to erect in memory of his beloved and faithful consort, Queen Eleanor. She died, deeply regretted by the king, in November, 1291, at Hardeby, near Grantham, in Lincolnshire; her body was brought to London, and deposited in Westminster Abbey. At each of the places where it had been rested during this journey, Edward afterwards erected a cross, of which, only those at Geddington, Northampton, and Waltham, now remain. Waltham Cross is the least perfect of the three; though the Society of Antiquarians have twice interested themselves in its preservation. It was originally surrounded by a flight of steps like those at Geddington and Northampton; but these have been long removed; the upper parts

are greatly mutilated: much of the foliage is defaced, and the pinnacles and battlements are broken.

WARE, 20½ miles from London, is an ancient market town on the west side of the river Lea, having a considerable trade in malt and corn. It consists of one principal street, intersected by several smaller ones. The houses in general are well built, and the church is a noble structure in the form of a cross, dedicated to St. Mary. The sepulchral memorials are numerous. Several alms-houses for poor widows, &c. are in different parts of the town; and various other benefactions for charitable purposes have been made to this parish.

The market is on Tuesday. The fairs on the last Tuesday in April, and the Tuesday before the 31st September. The number of houses, 557. Inhabitants, 2,950.

WARE PARK. In the meadow opposite to Ware Park, are the springs of Chadwell, the proper source of the New River. These are concentrated in a small pool, or basin, surrounded by a light railing, from which the stream slowly issues in its course towards London, and is swelled at a little distance by a cut from the river Lea.

WATFORD, 18½ miles from London, is a market town, seated on the banks of the Colne. The church is an extensive stone building, neatly fitted up. The church-yard contains several curious monuments; the principal manufacture is throwing of silk. The market-place is a strong square building.

The market is held on Tuesday. The fairs on Tuesday after Trinity Sunday, and 9th September. Number of houses, 661. Inhabitants, 3,530.

WYMONDLEY HOUSE, formerly the residence of a private gentleman, is now the principal academy for the education of Dissenting ministers; and has been enlarged for the accommodation of two tutors and 24 students. The library contains a valuable assemblage of upwards of 10,000 volumes of the best authors in divinity, criticism, classics, mathematics, topographical antiquities, &c., together with a cabinet of medals, a collection of natural history, and other curiosities. This institution was formerly at Daventry, and afterwards removed to Northampton. *See* NORTHAMPTON.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

Length 25 miles. Breadth 20. Circumference 67.—Square miles 345. Square acres 220,800. Hundreds 4. Market-towns 6. Parishes 103. Houses 7,742. Persons 43,700.—Diocese of Lincoln—Norfolk Circuit—Members to Parliament 4—Militia men 320.

BOUNDARIES.—The general form of this county is an irregular square. On the south-east and north-east sides, it is bounded by Cambridgeshire; on the north and north-west by Northamptonshire, and on the south-west by Bedfordshire. Its limits are chiefly artificial. The river Nen, or Nine, on the Northamptonshire border, with the King's Delf, the old West-water, and the Ouse river, on the Cambridgeshire side, being the principal exceptions. The government of this county is very peculiar, Cambridgeshire being joined to it under one sheriff, who is chosen out of that county one year, out of the Isle of Ely the second, and out of this county the third, and in the Isle of Ely, alternately out of the north and south parts. The woodlands are of inconsiderable extent, and the county is thin of timber. This is attributed to the very great demand for it in the fens. The high roads in Huntingdonshire are in general tolerably good; the cross roads are but indifferent, and in the winter season many of them become nearly impassable. The climate is regarded as very healthy, considering the space occupied by the fens, and that many parts of the county are but badly supplied with pure water, either from springs or rivers.

SOIL.—The fens, of which there are 44,000 acres in this county, exclusive of about 5,000 acres of what are called skirty lands, constitute nearly a seventh part of the great Bedford Level, but they belong to that division termed the Middle Level, and are principally found on the north and north-eastern parts of the county. The meadow lands, which are the next in order, on the scale of elevation, consist of about 12 or 14 hundred acres, bordering on the rivers Nen and Ouse, but chiefly on the latter; these are extremely productive, but the produce is frequently damaged by floods, and the crops sometimes to-

tally carried away. The soils in the upland parts of the county are various, but principally consist of a strong deep clay, more or less intermingled with loam, or of a deep gravelly soil, with loam.

AGRICULTURE.—The cultivation of the fen lands has been much improved of late years. Of the deep-stapled lands, great part is still in an open field state. As each particular occupier is necessarily obliged to pursue whatever course of tillage is practised by the parish at large, upwards of one third of the high lands are yet unenclosed. The more ancient enclosed parts are, generally speaking, in the hands of large proprietors. The rental of many farms in the enclosed parts, amounts from 200*l.* to 500*l.* per annum; in the open fields the farms are mostly under 150*l.* a year, and downwards, as low as 50*l.* a year. On some estates the tenantry have no more than a yearly interest in the lands they occupy. The breed of sheep upon the enclosed pastures, is of a mixed description, nearly approaching to the Leicestershire and Lincolnshire kinds. The sheep bred in open fields and common lands are much inferior, the neat cattle are the refuse of the Lancashire, Leicestershire, and Derbyshire breeds. Oxen are purchased for grazing without any particular choice in the breed, and, unfortunately, are never used in husbandry. From the open state of the country dairy farming is not much followed in the fens. On the approach of harvest, the inhabitants of the county cannot be found to reap, gather, and embarn the corn, and were it not from the accidental peregrinations of the Irish, of manufacturers from Leicestershire, and persons of other distant counties, the corn must be spoiled in the fields.

No MANUFACTURES of note are carried on in this county, and hardly any thing that bears reference to them except wool-stapling and spinning yarn; the latter is the chief business of the women and children in the winter season; in summer they seek a more profitable employment in the fields. The brewing trade furnishes another means of employment, though to no great extent, the produce being wholly for home consumption.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers connected with Huntingdonshire, are the Ouse and the Nine, or Nen.

The OUSE enters the county from Bedfordshire, and to-

wards Huntingdon is increased by a combination of small streams from the north-west. Having passed that town it becomes, near Holywell, the boundary between this county and Cambridgeshire, till it finally enters the great level of the fens, in the neighbourhood of Erith.

The NINE or NEN, rises in Northamptonshire, and flowing through a delightful vale, reaches Huntingdonshire, near Elton, where it becomes the boundary between both counties, and meandering to the north, passes Yarwell and Wandsford; soon after it pursues a devious course to Peterborough, below which it sinks into the fens, and slowly winds onward to the sea. Some smaller streams water the north-east side of this county, together with several large *Meres*, or pools of water, namely, *Whittlesea Mere*, *Ramsay Mere*, *Ugg Mere*, &c.

BUCKDEN, five miles from Huntingdon, is the venerable palace of the Bishops of Lincoln, principally built of brick, and partly surrounded by a moat. It consists of two quadrangular courts, with a small tower, and entrance gateway. Over the latter is the library.

HINCHINGBROOK HOUSE, one mile from Huntingdon, is a large irregular building. On a broken stone cornice, belonging to the small portion which remains of the ancient nunnery, is the date 1437; but the greater part of the present edifice was built by the Cromwells, in the reign of Elizabeth. The park and grounds are not extensive, nor much diversified in surface. The entrance gateway is of stone, and is ornamented in the style of Henry VII.'s time. On each face have been since put up two rude figures of human beings, clothed in garments of skins, with enormous ragged staffs.

HUNTINGDON, 58½ miles from London, is the principal town in this county, situated on the northern side of the river Ouse on gently rising ground. It is a borough by prescription, and the only one in the whole shire. The only churches that now remain are those of St. Mary and All Saints. The principal charitable establishments are a Free Grammar School and a Green Coat School, called Walden's Charity. The market-place is tolerably spacious. On the south side stands the Town Hall, where the assizes are held twice a year; and over which is a spacious assembly-room. The market is well supplied with

provisions in general; and great quantities of corn are sold here annually. The right of returning the two members to parliament is generally understood to be vested in the freemen and inhabitant householders, paying scot and lot. The number of voters is about 200. This town principally consists of one paved street, and being a principal thoroughfare to the north, has a good road trade, and contains several large inns. Huntingdon was the birth-place of the protector, *Oliver Cromwell*. The county assizes being held in this town contribute greatly to its support: and the Ouse being navigable to Bedford, it derives a great advantage from its supply of coals, wood, &c., from Lynn by barges. Huntingdon is governed by a mayor, 12 aldermen, and a common council.

The market is on Saturday; the fair on 25th of March. The number of houses is 350; inhabitants 2,035.

KIMBOLTON CASTLE, 14 miles from Oundle, the seat of the Earls and Dukes of Manchester, is of unknown, but very remote, origin; this Castle was the jointure, and became the retirement of Queen Catherine, after her divorce from Henry VIII. Henry, first Earl of Manchester, and Robert, his grandson, the third Earl, made considerable improvements in this building.

NORMAN CROSS, $5\frac{3}{4}$ miles from Peterborough. At this place have been built very extensive barracks; they were erected principally for the reception of French prisoners, and include a very large area, surrounded by a high wood palisade.

ST. IVES, five miles from Huntingdon, a small town pleasantly situated on the banks of the Ouse. It derived its name from Ivo, a Persian bishop, who preached in England, about the year 600, and who was afterwards canonised. The monks of Ramsey founded a Benedictine priory at this place, and called it by his name. Oliver Cromwell rented a farm here before he was chosen a burgess for Cambridge. The church is a very light and neat edifice. In this town are several meeting-houses. Over the river is a good stone bridge of six arches. The market is one of the largest in the kingdom for cattle, sheep, poultry, pigs, &c. The inns and public-houses are numerous.

The market is on Monday. The fairs on Whitmonday,

and the 10th October. The number of houses, 464. Inhabitants, 2,099.

ST. NEOT'S, 56 miles from London, is a considerable town, pleasantly situated on the banks of the Ouse. The remains of the Priory buildings which stood near the present church, are very inconsiderable. The church is the noblest building of the kind in the whole county; the architecture is of the more beautiful style of Henry the VII.th's time; and it appears to have been built about 1507. Its plan is perfectly regular, with a finely proportioned and ornamented tower; the interior is very neat, and it is provided with a good organ. At this town the Earl of Holland, with other noblemen, who had taken up arms against the parliament, were defeated in July, 1648; the Earl was afterwards taken prisoner at St. Ives.

The market is on Thursday. The fairs on 29 January, Ascension Day, 23 June, 1 August, and 17 December. Houses, 362. Inhabitants, 1,752.

STILTON, ¾ of a mile from Norman Cross, a well-known village on the high north road, has obtained additional celebrity from giving name to a peculiar kind of cheese, which has not unfrequently been called the English parmesan.

WHITTLESEA MERE, is an extensive lake, about five miles in length, and between two and three in breadth. It is formed by a branch of the Nen, and numerous drains from the Fens; it abounds with excellent fish, great quantities of which are sent to the London market. The neighbourhood is very rich in pasture, but extremely foggy and unhealthy. This Mere is occasionally agitated with wind in a violent manner.

YAXLEY, a small but ancient market town, has of late increased in importance from the contiguity of the barracks at Norman Cross. The market was for a long time discontinued, but has of late been revived. The church is a handsome fabric, and particularly remarkable for its well proportioned spire, which is seen at a considerable distance.

KENT.

Length 58 miles. Breadth 36. Circumference 195. Square miles 1,462. Square acres 935,680. Hundreds 61. Market-towns 28. Parishes 403. Houses 64,362. Persons 385,600.—Diocese of Canterbury.—Home Circuit.—Members to Parliament 18.—Militia-men 960.

BOUNDARIES.—Kent is a maritime county; its figure is irregular, but approaching more to the trapezium than to any other. On the north, with the exception of a small tract on the Essex side, it is bounded by the Thames; on the east, and part of the south sides, it opens to the German ocean and British channel; on the south it is skirted by Sussex; and, on the west, by Surry. Kent is one of the most interesting counties in England, whether considered in respect to the advantages of its situation for trade and commerce, its extent, the fertility of its soil, the important events that have been transacted within its limits, the peculiar division of its lands, its numerous antiquities, the acknowledged bravery of its inhabitants, the ecclesiastical pre-eminence of its chief city, its produce, or its proximity to the continent.

The present flourishing state of Kent has, doubtless, originated from the peculiar customs by which the descent of landed property is regulated, and which are comprehended under the term *gavel-kind*. The general aspect of Kent is very beautiful, arising from the inequality of the surface, the diversity of the scenery, and the variety of the verdure. The whole county, excepting the marshes and the weald, is a general cluster of small hills, and has been divided into eight districts, according to the nature of the soil and produce; the *Isle of Thanet*, the *upland farms* of *East Kent*, the *rich flat lands* in the vicinity of Faversham, Sandwich, and Deal; the *hop grounds*, &c., of Canterbury and Maidstone; the *Isle of Shepey;* the *upland farms* of West Kent; the *Weald* of Kent, and *Romney Marsh*. The air in the higher parts is extremely favourable to health, but the inhabitants of the lower parts bordering on the marshes, are subject to agues and inter-



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DOVER CASTLE.

mittent fevers. The turnpike roads are mostly in good condition; but the cross roads of West Kent are frequently impassable for carriages. Of this county, about 400,000 acres are arable, and 200,000 acres in pasturage, the rest is in woods, marshes, hop-grounds, &c. Few counties in England are more abundant in antiquities and noblemen's seats, than Kent.

Soil.—The *Isle of Thanet*, forming the north-east angle of Kent, is of very remarkable fertility; its soil, though originally a light mould on a chalky bottom, having been greatly improved by the inexhaustible store of manure supplied by the sea. The *upland farms* of Kent lie between the city of Canterbury and the towns of Dover and Deal; and another tract extending from Dover by Elham and Ashford, to Rochester. The prevailing soils are chalk, loam, cledge, hazel mould, and stiff clay, with intermixtures of gravel and sand. The *rich flat lands* in the vicinity of Faversham, Sandwich, and Deal, lie nearly on a level, and are extremely fertile; the soils are a rich sandy loam, intermixed with a larger or smaller quantity of sand, and a stiff wet clay. The *hop grounds* extending from Maidstone and Canterbury, and from thence to Sandwich, are very productive, though the soils are different, and are estimated to include from 2,500 to 3,000 acres. The most productive grounds are those which have a deep and loamy surface, with a subsoil of deep loamy brick earth. The *Isle* of *Shepey* is separated from the rest of Kent by an arm of the sea called the Swale. About four-fifths of this island consist of marsh and pasture lands; the remainder is arable. The prevailing soil is a deep strong stiff clay, through which the plough can hardly be forced. The *upland farms* of *West Kent* include a great variety of soils. The *Weald of Kent* extends from Romney Marsh to Surry, and was in ancient times an immense wood, or forest, wholly destitute of inhabitants, and stored with hogs and deer only. The soil is principally clay, with a substratum of marl; in some places strong and heavy; but in others so pliant that the ploughing is performed by oxen unshod. The other soils are sand, hazel mould, and gravel; but those do not exist in any quantity. *Romney Marsh* is an extensive level tract of rich marsh land, lying on the southern coast, com-

prehending about 23,925 acres. *Walland Marsh*, which adjoins it on the south-west, contains 16,489 acres, and 2,912 in Denge marsh. The soil of these spacious levels has been almost wholly deposited by the sea, and principally consists of a fine soft rich loam and clay, with a greater or less proportion of sea-sand intermixed. The subsoil consists of alternate layers of sand and clay, with sea-beach occasionally intervening.

AGRICULTURE.—The *Isle of Thanet* contains about 3,500 acres of excellent marsh land, and 23,000 acres of arable. The general routine of crops on the lighter soils is fallow, barley, clover, and wheat; but a crop of peas is occasionally introduced in place of the fallow, and sometimes beans in room of the clover. Canary seeds are likewise grown here in great quantities; as well as radish, spinach, mustard, cabbage, and other esculent plants for the London markets. The harvest generally commences in the first week in August; and for barley, oats, and peas, the last week in July. The marsh-lands are principally applied to the fattening of sheep and cattle; and many pigs are reared in this district. The farm-houses are in general good, and even elegant buildings. The sea-weed is sometimes burnt into kelp, and exported to Holland.—*Upland farms of East Kent.* The soils of this district being various, the routine and nature of the crops are of course very dissimilar. The harvest is commonly from 14 to 18 days later than in the Isle of Thanet. The sheep, cattle, horses, and hogs, are of similar breeds to those in that island. The hop-grounds are but few. The *rich flat lands* in the vicinity of Faversham, Sandwich, and Deal, are excellently managed under a general system. In the vicinity of Sandwich are many orchards, which in some years produce large quantities of good apples. The live-stock in this division of the county is similar to what has been noticed in the preceding districts. The *hop-grounds* near Maidstone, &c., in their produce are subject to great fluctuations: in some seasons the hops amount to 14 or 15 hundred weight per acre; in others they do not weigh two hundred per acre. Besides its hop-grounds, the neighbourhood of Maidstone is celebrated for its apples, cherries, and filberts; many small fields, of from one to ten, and perhaps 15 acres, being planted with different species of these kinds of

fruit.—The *Isle of Shepey*. On the arable lands, which are in a high state of cultivation, beans and wheat are grown alternately, a fallow being occasionally substituted for a bean-crop. The wheat is very excellent; much clover is also grown here; and on the few gravelly tracts in the higher parts oats and barley are sown. The upland pastures are applied to the feeding of lambs and young lean sheep, which are mostly of the Romney Marsh breed; the cattle are almost wholly of the Welsh sort. The horses are of a kind that has been bred in the island from time immemorial, and are somewhat smaller than those of the other parts of the county. The arable lands have been greatly improved by being manured with cockle-shells.—The *upland farms of West Kent*. This part produces great quantities of hops and fruit, with some corn and grass; much timber and coppice-wood is also grown here. In the gravelly and sandy soils about Dartford and Blackheath, early green peas, turnips, rye, winter tares, clover, oats, &c., are produced. The rotation of crops on these different soils is so much varied, that no general course can be said to exist. The dairies are mostly small, many of them not keeping more than eight or ten cows. The sheep are mostly of the South Down, Wiltshire, and Dorsetshire kinds, and are frequently fattened on turnips, oil-cake, and hay. The *Weald of Kent* exhibits a most delightful landscape, interspersed with small eminences, highly cultivated and animated by farm-houses, seats, and villages. Wheat, oats, barley, rye grass, clover, turnips, and beans, are amongst the chief productious of this district. The pastures are also very rich and fertile, and great numbers of cattle are annually fattened on them.—*Romney Marsh*, &c. The beautiful appearance of these levels in summer, clothed with luxuriant verdure, and covered with numerous flocks of sheep and droves of cattle, excite considerable interest. In that proportion of the marshes within this county, the enclosures are principally formed by ditches and a rail-fence. These marshes are almost entirely appropriated to the grazing and fattening of sheep and cattle, but chiefly to the former, which are bred and fed here in immense quantities, their number perhaps exceeding that of any other district in the kingdom. The extent and

rental of farms in Kent are uncommonly various. The number of the freeholds in the county is about 9,000, independent of the large estates of the churches of Canterbury and Rochester, and of various corporate bodies. The copyhold and customary tenures are very few.

MANUFACTURES.—The manufactures carried on in Kent are various, though not particularly extensive. The clothing-trade is now nearly forgotten in the county. At Canterbury, muslins, brocaded silks, and stockings, are made. At Deptford and Whitstable are large copperas works. At Stouwe, in the Isle of Thanet, and likewise in the Isle of Graine, salt is manufactured. At Ospringe is an extensive manufactory for gunpowder, erected by Government; and there is also another near Dartford in private hands. In the Weald, bordering on Sussex, are various iron furnaces; and at Dartford and Crayford are mills for the manufactory of iron; at the latter place, also, are extensive works for the printing of calicos, and spacious grounds for the bleaching of linens. At Sevenoaks are large silk-mills; and at Boxley, near Maidstone, is the most extensive and curious manufacture of paper perhaps in Europe. Paper is also made in the neighbourhood of Dartford, and of some other places. The various dock-yards at Deptford, Woolwich, Chatham, &c., give employment to numerous artisans in all the different branches of naval affairs; ship-building is also carried on at other places on the sea-coast.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers that intersect or bound this county are, the Thames, the Medway, the Greater and Lesser Stoure, the Darent, the Cray, and the Ravensbourne.

The THAMES has a very important influence on the trade and commerce of this county, which it skirts on the north side, the entire distance from Deptford to the Nore.

The MEDWAY has four principal sources, only one of which is in this county, two of the others being in Sussex, and the third in Surry. That branch which enters Kent from the latter county, flows to Penshurst, below which it is joined by one of the branches that rise in Sussex, and, being augmented by various smaller streams, proceeds to Tunbridge, through a very beautiful country. A little above this town the river separates into several

channels, the northern-most of which is navigable, and is again joined by the other divisions within about two miles below Tunbridge. The Medway flows in a winding direction to Maidstone, and thence, in a wildly devious channel, gradually augmenting in depth and breadth, it pursues its picturesque course to Rochester, where the scenery becomes eminently beautiful. Proceeding hence towards Sheerness, it passes Chatham, Upper Castle, and Gillingham Fort; after which it flows onward to the Thames, between the Isles of Graine and Shepey, having first united its waters to those of the Swale.

The GREATER STOURE has two principal branches, both of which rise in this county; the first at Well Street, near Lenham, and the other among the hills, between Liminge and Postling. These streams having had their waters increased by several rivulets, unite near Ashford, and flow by Spring-grove to Wye, thence to Canterbury and the Isle of Thanet; it afterwards empties itself into the sea, below Sandwich.

The LESSER STOURE rises in the neighbourhood of Liminge, flows along the western skirts of Barham Downs, and falls into the Greater Stoure, about a mile beyond Stourmouth.

The ROTHER rises at Gravel-hill, in Sussex, and becomes the boundary of Kent, below Sandhurst and Neuenden, and empties its waters into Rye harbour.

The DARENT rises on the borders of this county and Sussex, near Westerham, passes Valance, Brasted, Chipsted, and other villages, to River-head, flows past Shoreham, Eynsford, and Farningham to South Darent; proceeds to Dartford, where it becomes navigable, and, being joined by the Cray, enters the Thames near Long Reach.

The CRAY has its source at Newell, in Oppington parish, and winding through Crayford Marshes, it falls into Dartford Creek.

The RAVENSBOURNE rises on Keston Downs, and flowing between the parishes of Hayes and Bromley, is augmented by several rivulets; being joined near Lee by the LEE BOURNE, it flows to Deptford, where it becomes navigable for lighters and small craft, and shortly afterwards falls into the Thames.

Remarkable Places.

BELVIDERE, one mile from Erith, the seat of Lord Eardley, occupies a very beautiful situation, about one mile from the river Thames. The house is a spacious edifice of brick, standing on the brow of an eminence.

BLACKHEATH, near Greenwich. Its name is by some supposed to have been derived from the appearance of the soil; and by others, from its bleak situation. This place has often been the station of a military force. In 1381, Wat Tyler, Jack Straw, and their associates, were encamped upon Blackheath. Jack Cade, the counterfeit Mortimer, twice occupied the same station, in 1450. In 1452, Henry VI. pitched his tent upon Blackheath, when he was preparing to withstand the forces of the Duke of York, afterwards Edward IV. In 1471, the notorious Falconbridge encamped here with his army. In the year 1497, Lord Audley, and the Cornish rebels, pitched their tents on this heath, where they waited the arrival of Henry VII., and his army. Blackheath has been the scene also of triumphal processions, and ceremonial meetings. There are numerous country seats scattered over the heath.

BROADSTAIRS, two miles from Ramsgate, has of late years become a very thriving and fashionable watering-place, and many new houses have been erected. The machines and rooms are on the same construction as at Ramsgate; and there are two libraries, one in the town, the other on the cliff. The parish church of St. Peter is a mile distant, a very handsome structure; the steeple, which is very strong, is remarkable for a crack from the top to the bottom, occasioned by the shock of an earthquake in 1580.

BROMLEY, 10 miles from London, a pleasant and healthy market town. The only episcopal residence belonging to the see of Rochester, stands about a quarter of a mile from the town. The church is a spacious building, and contains many sepulchral memorials. Bromley college was founded for 20 widows of loyal and orthodox clergymen. There is also a charity-school for thirteen boys, and the same number of girls. A few miles from Bromley are the little villages of Down and Cudham, whose church-

yards are remarkable for two yew trees of extraordinary age, size, and luxuriance.

The market is on Thursday; the fairs on the 14th of February, and 5th of August. The number of houses 415; inhabitants 955.

CAMDEN PLACE, at Chislehurst, had its name from the famous historian and antiquary William Camden, who is said to have composed his annals of Elizabeth in this place. He also died here in November 1623, and was carried hence with great solemnity, to the place of his interment in Westminster Abbey.

CANTERBURY, 55½ miles from London, is the capital of the county, an archbishop's see, and the metropolitan of all England. The cathedral at Canterbury is a magnificent and noble pile. It exhibits specimens of the style of almost every age, from the advent of the Normans, to the time of the dissolution. It stands on the north-eastern quarter of the city. The remains of the Abbey church are extremely interesting, as specimens of early Norman architecture, and this of a rich and elegant kind. The ruins of the castle are situated on the south-west side of the city, near the entrance from Ashford. The number of churches within the walls of Canterbury, independent of the cathedral, is eleven. The corporation should consist of a mayor, a recorder, 12 aldermen, including a chamberlain, 24 common-councilmen, including the sheriff of the city, a town-clerk, a coroner, and various inferior officers. The city has been regularly represented in parliament by two burgesses, ever since the 23d of Edward I. The right of election is in the freemen, the number of whom amounts to about 1560, of these about 900 are resident, and 660 non-resident. Many of the inhabitants of this city are engaged in the cultivation of hops. The town hall is a respectable edifice, and has been partly rebuilt in forming the new street. The public assembly-rooms are at the corner of St. Margaret's, in the High-street.

The markets are on Wednesday and Saturday; the fairs on the 10th of October; the number of houses 2,018; inhabitants 10,498.

CHATHAM, 30 miles from London, is a large and populous, but irregular and ill-built town, adjoining to the

east side of Rochester. The celebrity of Chatham has entirely arisen from its Dock-yard and Arsenal. The ordnance wharf; the church; an hospital; the victualling office; and a curiously carved chimney-piece, in an old mansion, in High Street, are worthy of notice. The inhabitants are chiefly employed in the Dock-yard, or in trades connected with maritime pursuits.

The market is on Saturday. The fairs on 15 May, and 19 September. The number of houses, 1,715. Inhabitants, 10,505.

COBHAM HALL, near Rochester, the seat of Viscount Darnley, though not externally grand, retains sufficient remains of its ancient baronial splendour, to excite considerable interest; it contains many fine paintings. The *park*, including 1,800 acres, is nearly seven miles in circumference.

DANDELION, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile from Margate, was the seat of the ancient family of Dent-de-Lyon. The gate-house of the ancient residence is yet standing, and in tolerable preservation. The grounds belonging to this ancient seat have been partly converted into a tea garden, a place of resort for summer visitants to Margate and Ramsgate; for whose entertainment a public breakfast is given every Wednesday throughout the season, which is followed by dancing, and other amusements. The walks afford some fine prospects of the sea and adjacent country.

DEPTFORD, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles from London, a large, populous, and busy town, on the banks of the Ravensbourne; was anciently a small fishing village, and was of comparatively little importance, till the Royal Dock was established here. Since that period, it has progressively increased. The Royal Dock, or King's Yard, was established by Henry VIII. The whole extent of the yard includes about thirty-one acres, which are occupied by various buildings; two wet docks, a double and a single one; three slips for men-of-war; a basin; two mast ponds; a model loft; mast houses; a large smith's shop, with about 20 forges for anchors; sheds for timber, &c. The immense pile which now forms the Victualling Office has been erected at different periods; and consists of many ranges of building appropriated to the various establish-

ments necessary in the important concern of victualling the navy. There is a beautiful terrace, on which are the residences of the principal officers, and a large house on the wharf for the first officer of the yard. Besides the King's yard, there are two large private Docks for ship-building, at Deptford, called *Dudman's* and *Barnard's*. Deptford contains two churches; the oldest is dedicated to St. Nicholas. The inhabitauts of Deptford are chiefly those employed in the Dock-yards, or engaged in maritime pursuits of different kinds. An extensive manufacture of earthenware, called Deptford ware, is carried on at this place. The number of houses is 3,068. Inhabitants, 17,548.

DOVER CASTLE, in its present state, consists of an immense congeries of almost every kind of fortification which the art of war has contrived to render a situation impregnable. The buildings occupy nearly the whole summit of the high eminence which bounds the south eastern side of the deep valley in which Dover is built. Near the edge of the cliff stands a beautiful piece of brass ordnance, 24 feet long, cast at Utrecht, in 1544, and called Queen Elizabeth's Pocket Pistol, it having been a present from the States of Holland to that queen. The new works recently formed on the opposite side of the valley for the defence of this important fortress, consist of different batteries, furnished with a very formidable train of artillery, casemates dug in the solid chalk-rock, magazines, covered ways, and various subterranean communications and apartments for soldiery; the latter are sufficiently capacious for the accommodation of about 2,000 men. Light and air are conveyed into them by well-like apertures cut in the chalk, and by other openings carried through to the face of the cliffs.

DOVER, 72 miles from London, is a sea-port and market-town. It was formerly surrounded with a wall, which had 10 gates, and appears to have been in a very flourishing state in the reign of Edward the Confessor. In time of peace, this town is a great thoroughfare for persons passing and repassing to and from France, the channel here being only nine leagues across to Calais, and, with a fair wind, the voyage is often made in one tide.

This town is governed by a mayor, 12 jurats, and 36 common councilmen, from the latter of whom the town-

clerk and chamberlain are annually chosen. The two members of parliament are elected in St. Mary's church, by the whole body of freemen resident and non-resident; the number of freemen is about 1,600. The trade of Dover is extensive; and, in times of peace, the general business is very considerable. The inns are numerous, and, in several of them, the accommodations are in the first style. There are two good libraries. Of late years, and particularly in the bathing season, this town has become a favourite summer residence of many respectable families. The attractions are numerous, and the prospects are particularly interesting.

The markets are on Wednesday and Saturday. The fair on the 22 September. The number of houses, 3,068. Inhabitants, 13,418.

DOWNS, immediately opposite to Deal. The southern boundary is formed by the Goodwin Sands; its width is about six miles, and its length about eight; its general depth varies from eight to 12 fathoms. This is the common rendezvous of the East India and other fleets, both on their homeward and outward bound voyages; and, in particular states of the wind, nearly 400 sail of shipping have rode at anchor here at one time.

EBBS FLEET, near the borders of Minster Level, appears to have been the usual place of landing from the continent. Here the Saxon leaders, Hengist and Horsa, landed with their forces in the fifth century, when invited to the assistance of the Britons by the imprudent Vortigern. This also was the landing place of St. Augustine, and his companions, when on their mission to convert the Saxons to Christianity; and here likewise St. Mildred is stated to have first stepped on the shore when returning from France, whither she had been to receive instruction in monastic discipline.

ELTHAM, eight miles from London, is a considerable village, situated on the high road between London and Maidstone. The remains of the palace stand about two furlongs southward from the village. Eltham Palace was for several centuries a favourite retreat of the English sovereigns; it is now a farm; and the beautiful great hall, where parliaments were held, is now used as a barn.

ELTHAM LODGE is a respectable mansion, stand-

ing in the great park, which formerly belonged to the palace, and includes an area of two miles in circumference.

At a farm-house in this parish is a very ancient oak table, curiously inlaid. It formerly belonged to the palace, and tradition asserts it to have belonged to King John.

The fairs are on Palm Monday, Easter Monday, Whit Monday, and October 10. The number of houses, 256. Inhabitants, 1,627.

FAVERSHAM, nine miles from Canterbury, is celebrated for having been the place of meeting of a Wittanegemot, or Council of the Wise Men, assembled by King Athelstan, about the year 930. The only manufacture carried on in the vicinity of Faversham, is that of gunpowder. The present church is a spacious and handsome fabric. There is a free grammar school, two small charity schools, an assembly room, a theatre, and a market house or guildhall, built in the year 1594. At a little distance from the bridge at the bottom of West Street, is a strong chalybeate spring.

The markets are on Wednesday and Saturday. The fairs on 25 February and 12 August. The number of houses, 578. Inhabitants, 1,627.

FRIARY, at Aylesford. Nearly the whole of the conventual buildings are yet standing, and form a convenient, though not a splendid residence. This parish has been the scene of several battles, the most memorable of which was fought in the year 455, between the Britons under Vortimer, and the Saxons under Hengist and Horsa. The second battle recorded to have been fought here was betweeen Alfred and the Danes, when the latter were defeated.

GAD'S HILL, 2½ miles from Rochester, has been rendered memorable by the immortal Shakspeare, who has made it the scene of the cowardly exploits of Sir John Falstaff. The sign of Sir John Falstaff on this hill has long been the means of recalling the jocular knight to the mind of the traveller.

GOODWIN SANDS, though frequently fatal to mariners, are notwithstanding of considerable use, as it is by them alone that the Downs are constituted a road for shipping. In all easterly winds they serve as a pier, or

break water, and greatly mitigate the force and immensity of the waves, which, in stormy weather, would otherwise roll upon this shore with unabated fury.

GRAVESEND, 22½ from London, is situated on the Thames. The town house is a handsome building, standing in the centre of the High Street. The church is an elegant edifice, erected in the reign of Queen Anne. Gravesend is governed by a mayor, 12 jurats, and 24 common councilmen. The streets are paved and lighted, and the town is well supplied with fish. All vessels are obliged to stop at this place, and be examined by the custom-house officers, who are stationed at the Block House below the town.

Markets on Wednesday and Saturday. Fairs, April 23, October 24 and 25.

GREENWICH, 5½ miles from London, is pleasantly situated on the banks of the Thames. Greenwich has been the birth-place of several illustrious personages, of whom the three principal were Henry VIII. and his two daughters, Queen Mary and Queen Elizabeth.

For a description of Greenwich Hospital and the adjacent park, the reader is referred to *Leigh's New Picture of London and its Environs*.

HAYES PLACE, two miles from Bromley. The late Earl of Chatham erected the present mansion. After his retirement from public affairs, this great statesman spent much of his time in improving this favourite residence.

HEVER CASTLE, eight miles from Westerham. The Boleyns made this their principal residence, and here, during the halcyon days of courtship, the stern and inflexible tyrant Henry VIII. is said to have spent some of his happiest hours. Hever Castle is a very fine and venerable remain, surrounded by a moat, and supplied by the river Eden. The hall still retains vestiges of its ancient festive splendour.

HOLWOOD HOUSE, near Bromley, was purchased of the Burrows family by the late Right Hon. William Pitt, the celebrated prime minister. In the recesses of public business this was his favourite retirement.

JAMES'S FOLLY. About a furlong from the road over Shooter's Hill is a high tower of brick, apparently rising from a thick wood, and forming a striking object

for several miles round. This was built to commemorate the achievements of the gallant Sir William James, and to record the conquest of the Castle of Severndroog, on the coast of Malabar.

LEE, in the parish of Ickham, four miles from Canterbury, has been highly celebrated by Lord Orford. The house was new modelled at a great expense, under the direction of Mr. James Wyatt. In the house is a small but curious collection of pictures; and the interior of the library is fitted up with the greatest elegance.

LEEDS CASTLE, near Maidstone. This fortress is environed by a very broad moat. The family rooms are but few. The walls of the Keep, which is of a polygonal form, are of great thickness; the lower part is probably of the Norman times.

MAIDSTONE, 34½ miles from London, the county town, is principally built on the eastern banks of the river Medway. The soil, besides being peculiarly favourable for the growth of hops, is highly conducive to the luxuriance of the fruit-orchards and filbert plantations which in this neighbourhood are very plentiful. The great source of the wealth of Maidstone has arisen from the cultivation of hops. The erection of many paper, corn, and other mills, in this and the adjoining parishes, has contributed to augment the wealth and population of the town. A distillery of English spirits, or *Maidstone geneva*, also two very considerable beer and porter breweries, have been established here. The church is a very spacious and handsome fabric. Among the public buildings in this town may be mentioned a free grammar-school, two charity schools, two ranges of alms-houses, and the poor-house; a theatre, a shire hall, a gaol for the western division of Kent, and a conduit. The High Street is spacious, and for the most part well-built.

The markets are on Thursday, and second Tuesday in every month. The fairs on Feb. 13, May 12, June 20, and October 17. The number of houses, 1,330; inhabitants, 8,027.

MARGATE, 72 miles from London, though one of the best frequented watering-places in the kingdom, has obtained its celebrity within the last 40 or 50 years, before which it was only a small fishing town. The improvement

of the harbour, and the great resort of company to this coast, have occasioned a considerable increase in the number of fishing and other craft: so that the town is not only sufficiently supplied with fish for its own consumption, but considerable quantities are likewise sent to the metropolis. This town is large and scattered, and built on irregular ground. At the south corner of Cecil Square stand the assembly-rooms, a building of the Ionic order. On the first floor are the tea and card rooms, and the ball-room; on the upper story is an extensive suite of lodging rooms. The bathing rooms are situated on the western side of the High Street, near the harbour. The bathing place is a fine level sandy shore, which extends under the cliffs for several miles. The most fashionable promenade is the pier, which being finished by a parapet breast high is perfectly safe, and is the general resort of the company before and after bathing. The church, which is dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is a spacious edifice, standing on an elevated spot on the south-east side of the town. There are several meeting-houses in this town, as well as a charity school, a sea bathing infirmary, and an alms-house. On the high ground above the town is a battery of three guns. The views from this spot are extensive, and very beautiful. At some distance on the same eminence stands a very curious windmill for grinding corn. The markets are held twice weekly, and are in general well stocked with butcher's meat, poultry, fish, and vegetables. Margate contains several good libraries and a theatre. Besides the hotels, there are many private boarding-houses, where company are well accommodated on moderate terms. The Margate steam-boats, &c., which are employed for the conveyance of passengers, baggage, &c., to and from London, are commodiously fitted up for the purpose. The season begins on the 4th of June, and terminates with the last ball night in October.

The markets are on Wednesday and Saturday. The number of houses, 1,004; inhabitants, 4,766.

MILITARY CANAL, immediately under Shorn Cliff, and within half a mile from Sandgate. This canal was cut a distance of about 23 miles to impede the progress of an enemy, in the event of a landing being effected upon this shore; in addition to this, a long

range of Martello Towers has been built on the sea-beach, about half or three quarters of a mile from each other.

MORDEN COLLEGE, near Blackheath, is so named, from its founder, Sir John Morden, Bart., an affluent Turkey merchant, who had been settled at Aleppo; and on his return, erected this structure, for the reception of decayed merchants.

MURSTON TONG and BAPCHILD, near Milton; the churches belonging to these places, though small edifices, are all of high antiquity, and exhibit some interesting specimens of the architecture of the Saxon and Norman ages.

NORTH FORELAND, about one mile and a half north-eastward from St. Peter's Church, near Ramsgate, is a point of land, projecting into the sea nearly in the form of a bastion, and being higher than the contiguous coast, has had a light-house erected on its summit for the general safety of mariners, but more particularly to enable them to avoid striking on the Goodwin sands.

PENSHURST, near Tunbridge Wells, was the birth-place of the celebrated Sir Philip Sydney. The mansion is a very extensive pile; the state rooms are splendid; but the most noble ornaments are the portraits of the Sydneys and Dudleys, with the monarchs who favoured them, some of which are by Holbein. The park includes more than 400 acres of ground. The famous oak, said to have been planted at the birth of Sir Philip Sydney, is upwards of 22 feet in girth.

QUEX, near Margate, the ancient seat of the Quex family, is now a farm-house. Here King William is stated to have occasionally taken up his abode, till the wind favoured his embarking for Holland.

RAMSGATE, 73 miles from London, like Margate, was formerly only a small fishing-hamlet. The great influx of visiters to this town of late years, has occasioned the erection of several new rows of large and respectable houses. A spacious chapel of ease has also been erected, and two meeting-houses; other improvements have also been made; the streets have been paved, watched, and lighted; and a market has been established, which is well supplied with meat, poultry, fish, and

vegetables. The accommodations for the summer residents of Ramsgate, are similar to those at Margate; though, perhaps, not quite so numerous, and somewhat less splendid.

The assembly-room and tavern is a large building, near the harbour, elegantly fitted up, and containing convenient tea and card-rooms, a billiard-room, and a coffee-room. Here are several good inns also, with bathing-rooms, libraries, boarding-houses, &c. The bathing-place is a fine sandy shore beneath the cliffs to the south of the pier. The Ramsgate hoys, or packets, are principally employed in the conveyance of baggage, goods, &c., as the frequent difficulty of weathering the North Foreland, generally induces those who prefer a sea trip, to sail in the Margate packets.

The markets are on Wednesday and Saturday; the number of houses 639; inhabitants 3,110.

ROCHESTER, 29 miles from London, is situated on the banks of the Medway. Many estates in this county are held of Rochester Castle, by the ancient tenure of castle-guard. The situation of the castle was extremely favourable for defence. The keep, or great tower, is still nearly perfect as to its outward figure. This is one of the most interesting and curious specimens of the Norman military architecture now remaining in England.

The see of Rochester, though one of the most ancient, is at the same time one of the smallest in England. The cathedral, exhibits specimens of the architecture of at least four distinct eras. The remains of the ancient chapter-house and cloister, which adjoin to the cathedral on the south, exhibit a very beautiful series of Norman arches and ornaments, though now greatly mutilated. The principal charitable establishments in this city, are St. Catherine's Hospital, the grammar-school, for 20 scholars; an alms-house, endowed for the relief of poor travellers; and a free school.

Rochester returns two members to parliament: the right of election is vested in the freemen, who are in number about 630. The oyster fishery on the several creeks and branches of the Medway, is managed under the direction of the mayor and citizens of Rochester, by a company of *free dredgers*.

The market is on Friday, the fairs on 30th May and 11th December, the number of houses 940—inhabitants 5,645.

SANDGATE, about a mile and a half from Folkestone, is a small bathing village, which has wholly grown up within this last 30 years, and is now frequented by those who wish for quiet and retirement. A castle in a similar style to those of Deal and Walmer, was erected here by Henry VIII. This castle has been greatly altered within the last few years; and a large martello tower built in the centre, to correspond with other martello towers erected on the neighbouring hills, to defend this part of the coast.

SANDWICH, 68 miles from London, is irregularly built, the streets and lanes are mostly narrow and inconvenient; though some considerable improvements have been made.

Sandwich contains the three parishes of St. Clement, St. Peter, and St. Mary. St. Clement's Church is a spacious edifice; some ancient wooden stalls remain here; the sepulchral inscriptions are numerous.

St. Peter's Church has been erected at different periods: under an arch in the north wall, are two figures greatly mutilated, of a male and female, in dresses apparently of the 14th century; also two other ancient tombs under arches; the sculpture of which has been well executed.

St. Mary's Church is a large fabric.

The markets are on Wednesday and Saturday; the fairs on the 4th December; the number of houses 1,287—inhabitants 6,506.

SHEERNESS, 46½ miles from London, is a market town, situated in the Isle of Shepey. It contains several good streets; an ordnance office, with apartments for the different officers; also a yard for building ships, and a dock intended chiefly for repairing ships that meet with sudden accidents. This town was once taken by the Dutch, but it has now a regular fortification and garrison under a governor, lieutenant-governor, fort-major, and other officers; and has such a line of heavy cannon, commanding the mouth of the river, as to bid defiance to any force attempting to pass it.

The market is on Saturday, the number of houses 666

inhabitants 4,139, exclusive of 1,422 living in the fortress and dock-yard.

SHOOTER'S-HILL, near Woolwich. On May-day, 1511, HenryVIII., and his Queen, Catherine of Arragon, went with great pomp from Greenwich to Shooter's-hill, where they were received by 200 archers, clad in green, with a captain at their head, personating Robin Hood. The prospects from this eminence are extremely fine. It was formerly notorious for the numerous robberies committed there.

TENHAM, 12 miles from Chatham, is stated to have been the place where Richard Harrys, fruiterer to Henry VIII., planted 105 acres of rich land, about the year 1533, with cherries, pippins, and golden-rennets, which he had procured at great expense and trouble from foreign countries: hence all the cherry gardens, and apple orchards of Kent took their rise.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, 36 miles from London, is a general appellation given to a series of scattered villages and dwellings, within five or six miles from the town of Tunbridge, and immediately bordering upon Sussex. They are situated in the three parishes of Tunbridge, Frant, and Speldhurst, and consist principally of Mount Ephraim, Mount Pleasant, Mount Sion, and the Wells, properly so called. The springs themselves, to the accidental discovery of which in the reign of James I., this neighbourhood stands wholly indebted for its origin, rise in the parish of Speldhurst. The accommodations for visitants have been much improved; and the population is rapidly augmenting. The trade of Tunbridge Wells is similar to that of the Spa in Germany, and consists chiefly in the manufacture of a variety of toys. The goods manufactured are well known by the name of Tunbridge Ware. The air of this district is very pure and salubrious; and the waters are of the *chalybeate* kind, and are nearly of equal strength to those of the German Spa. They are considered to be of great use in removing complaints arising from sedentary occupations, weak digestion, and nervous and chronical disorders. The new bath is a handsome edifice. The rides in the neighbourhood include a variety of interesting and picturesque scenes. During the last and present reigns, Tunbridge Wells has

been frequently visited by different branches of the royal family. The Wells, properly so called, form the centre of the place; near which are the markets, the medicinal water, chapel, assembly-rooms, and public parades, called the upper and lower walks. The upper walk in the way from the Wells, is the public parade, on which is one of the assembly-rooms, the library, coffee-house, post office, tunbridge ware, milliners', and different kinds of toy shops. A portico extends the whole length of the parade, supported by Tuscan pillars, where the company occasionaly walk. On the left is a row of large flourishing trees, which has a gallery in the centre for music; the whole being divided from the lower walk by a range of neat palisades. In this place are three principal taverns, which are all extremely well attended. There are clusters of houses on Mount Sion, Mount Pleasant, Mount Ephraim, and Bishop's Down: the first is by far the most charming, combining all that a romantic situation, aided by taste, can afford. On these different eminences are dispersed some elegant seats.

This place contains 236 houses, and 1,618 inhabitants.

WALMER CASTLE, near Dover, stands close to the sea-shore, at some distance from the village, and commands a beautiful view of the Downs, and coast of France. This fortress is appropriated to the Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, for whose residence the principal apartments were fitted up a few years ago. Here the late Mr. Pitt, who held that office, used frequently to spend some of his summer months.

WOOLWICH, eight miles from London, like Deptford, was originally only a small place, inhabited by fishermen, and, like that also, owes its consequence to the establishment of a royal dock, in the reign of Henry VIII.: its progress has been more particularly rapid, since the augmentation of the royal artillery, who have their quarters here, and the establishment of the royal arsenal.

The principal objects demanding attention at Woolwich, are the dock yard, the new military academy, and the artillery barracks. The latter is probably the most splendid edifice of the kind in the kingdom.

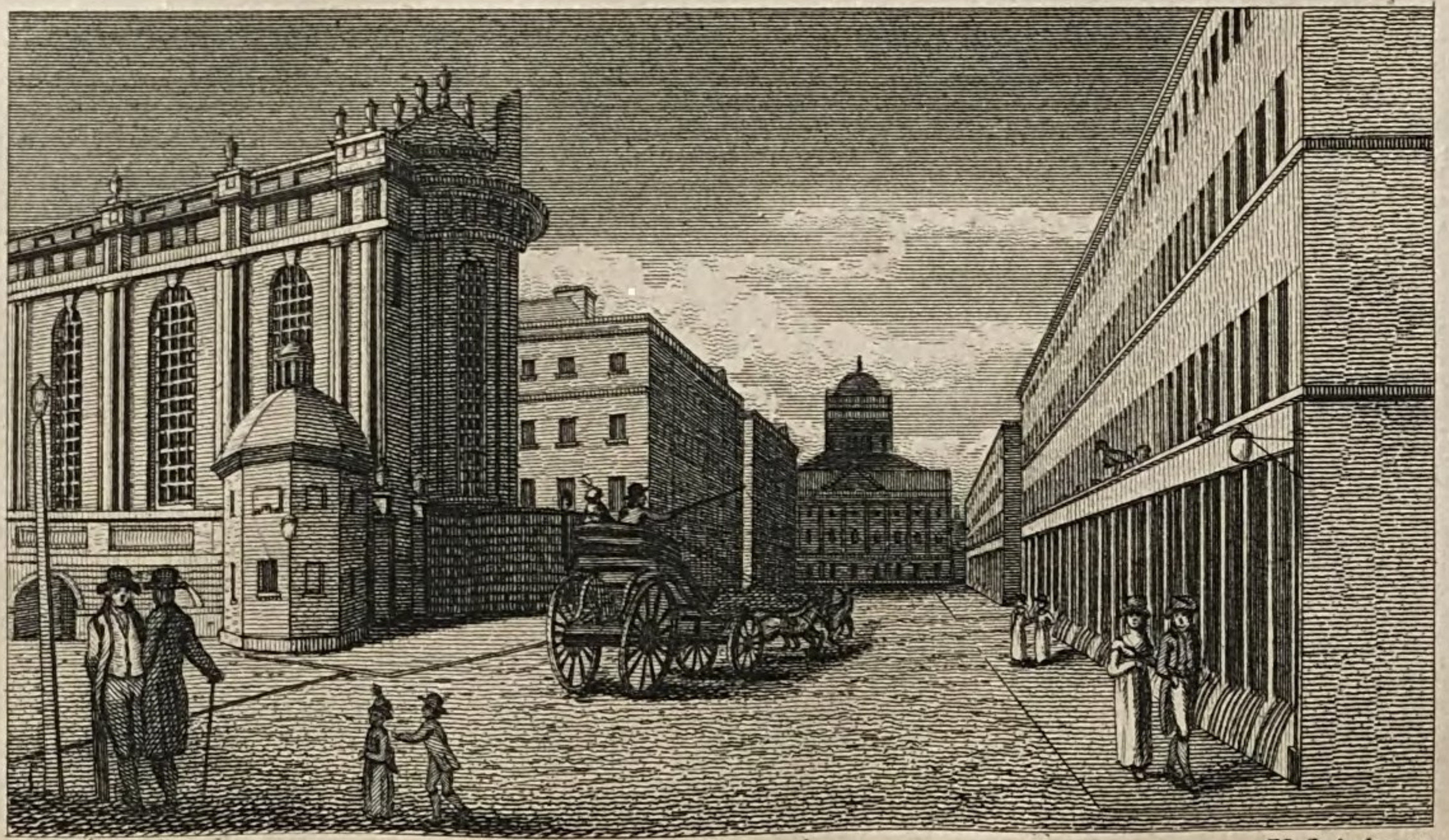
The market is on Friday; number of houses 1,341; inhabitants 9,826.

LANCASHIRE.

Length 74 miles. Breadth 44.—Square miles 1,806. Square acres 1,155,840. Hundreds 6. Market towns 27. Parishes 68. Houses 149,359. Persons 856,000.—Diocese of Chester—Northern Circuit —Members to Parliament 14—Militia men 800.

BOUNDARIES.—This county is bounded on the south by Cheshire, on the east by Yorkshire, on the north by Westmorland, Cumberland, and the Irish sea. The climate of this county is proverbially wet, and this seems a natural consequence from its peculiar situation, between the broadest part of the Irish sea, and the high ridge of hills which form its eastern border. This wetness of climate is found particularly injurious to the arable lands; though the meadow and pasture grounds are much benefited by it. Frosts are generally less severe, and of shorter duration on the western, than on the eastern side of these hills. It may perhaps be safely stated that there is no one shire in England where the exertions of human ingenuity and persevering labour have produced such extensive and beneficial effects, as in Lancashire; for in this county the various machinery connected with manufactures, engines and mines, have been eminently promoted, if not originally invented; and here the system of Commercial Docks was first successfully and advantageously carried into effect. The landed property which his Majesty possesses in this county, as Duke of Lancaster, is of great extent, although the revenues arising from it are by no means considerable. The principal part of this property consists of what are generally styled the Forests of Myerscough, Fulwood, Bleasdale, Wyersdale, and Quernmore, all of which are situated in the most northern parts of the county.

Most of the roads near Manchester, Liverpool, and some other towns, are paved or pitched like the London streets; and as these are not so easily or cheaply repaired as the common roads, they are suffered to remain very uneven, and in some parts abound with deep holes. Some of the turnpike roads, in the vicinity of Manchester,



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LIVERPOOL, *Castle Street.*

paved with these stones, cost from 1,500*l.* to 2,000*l.* per mile. In the northern and north-eastern part of the county, materials for making roads are found upon the spot; the lime-stone, when broken, binds, and makes an excellent road; but in the midland and southern parts, the materials, except what the rivers afford, are brought at considerable expense from the Welsh and Scotch coasts.

Soil.—The soil and surface of the county are various, and its features in some parts, particularly towards the north, and all along its eastern border, are strongly marked. Here the hills are in general bold and lofty, and the valleys narrow and irriguous: near the sea coast, and nearly the whole of the southern side of the county, following the course of the river Mersey, the land is low and flat; this county abounds with those bogs, or morasses, which bear the provincial name of mosses. The principal of these are called from the chief places in their vicinity, Chat, Pilling, Trafford, Risley, Ashton, Road, Bickerstaff, Rainford, Marton, St. Michael's, and Catforth. Two or three of these mosses have been brought into a state of cultivation. The improvement of Trafford Moss, was undertaken by Mr. Wakefield and Mr. Roscoe, of Liverpool; and the whole of this hitherto useless tract of land is now converted into excellent arable and pasture ground. *Chat Moss* lies between Liverpool and Manchester, within the parish of Eccles, and consists of some thousands of acres; part of it was leased for a long term of years to Mr. Roscoe, who commenced the drainage in the latter part of the year 1805. *Bootle Marsh*, in the vicinity of Liverpool, has been improved, and is now valued at more than three guineas per acre, although previous to its drainage, &c., it was let at 10 shillings per acre, per annum. *Rainford Moss*, near Prescott, has been amazingly improved under the judicious management of Mr. John Chorley, who obtained it on a lease for three lives, from the Earl of Derby, and pays a rent of eight shillings per acre, per annum.

Coal is found in immense beds, both in the southern part, and towards the middle of the county, but mostly in the hundred of West Derby and Salford, and in part of Blackburn. At Haigh, near Wigan, a species is obtained

called cannel coal; it burns with a peculiar clearness of flame, consumes very rapidly, and is apt to fly in pieces in the fire; but, if previously immersed in water, it is said to lose this property. Towards the north and north-east parts of this county *limestone* is obtained in great abundance. Upon the common, near Lancaster, is a large quarry of excellent *free-stone*, which bears a fine polish. *Flags*, and great *slates*, are found at Holland, near Wigan. The mountains called Comstone and Telberthwaite Fells, near Hawkeshead, afford a large quantity of *blue slates*. *Scythe stones* are obtained at Rainford. *Iron ore* is found in abundance between Ulverstone and Dalton, and in Low Furness. In the north some *copper mines* have been worked, but they have not been productive. At Anglesack, near Chorley, is a *lead mine*.

AGRICULTURE.—The productions of this county are principally oats and potatoes. A considerable quantity of barley and some wheat are cultivated in Low Furness, the Filde, and in the south-western parts of the county; but it is imagined that Lancashire does not produce one quarter of the grain consumed by its inhabitants. The lands near the great towns are chiefly appropriated to pasturage and gardens. The first potatoes said to have been cultivated in England, were grown in Lancashire. A great variety of sorts are cultivated here, and great attention is paid to raising new species. Lancashire is possessed of a peculiar breed of horned cattle, which forms a variety with those of Lincolnshire. The cows are rather smaller in size than those of the latter county, and are known by their wide spreading horns and straight backs.

MANUFACTURES in this county are carried on very extensively in all the various branches of silk, linen, and cotton, which supply most of the markets at home and abroad, particularly since the late improvements in machinery, and the advantage of water-carriage from Liverpool, which communicates by the system of inland navigation, with all the neighbouring counties and principal rivers in England. There are also considerable works in iron and steel, and near Preston is a patent manufactory of cast plate glass.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers of this county are the

Mersey, Ribble, Were, and Lune. The *Mersey* rises in Derbyshire, and after receiving several smaller streams, divides that county from Cheshire, and falls into the sea at Liverpool. The *Ribble* rises in Yorkshire, and, crossing the county, falls into the Irish sea near Preston. The *Were* is formed by several small streams, and falls into the Irish sea above 12 miles north of the Ribble, and the *Lune* rises near Kirby Lonsdale, in Westmorland, and falls into the Irish sea, not far from Lancaster. All these rivers afford excellent salmon, and the Mersey is visited by annual shoals of smelts, called sparlings, of remarkable size and flavour.

CANALS are of very recent date in this kingdom, and it appears that the first complete artificial canal was planned and formed in Lancashire. This was known by the name of the Sankey, which has proved very beneficial to the public and to the undertakers; besides which, this county is intersected by portions of nine others, four of which communicate with the populous town of Manchester. The Ashton-under-Line Canal; Bridgwater Canal; Douglas River Navigation; Haslington Canal; Lancaster Canal; the Leeds and Liverpool Canal; Manchester, Bolton, and Bury Canal; Rochdale Canal; Ulverston Canal; such are the principal canals and navigable rivers of this very populous and flourishing county; and the construction of these tends strongly to characterize the commercial and speculating spirit of its active inhabitants.

Remarkable Places.

ALKINGTON, near Manchester. Sir Ashton Lever commenced his grand and interesting museum of natural and artificial curiosities at this place.

ASHTON-UNDER-LINE, near Manchester, is a large town and parish. Near the church is a curious ancient mansion called the Old Hall, the oldest parts of which are said to have been built in 1483.

BLACKPOOL, five miles from Poulton, has recently attained some distinction as a watering-place. For this purpose its situation, and other characteristics, are peculiarly favourable, whether we consider its fine breezes from the western ocean, its flat and smooth beach, the straight coast for nearly 20 miles, or the purity of the

water with which it is amply supplied. Near the south-end of the hamlet is a ruined building called Vaux-hall; it was long the retreat for popish recusants, and in 1715, was fitted-up to receive the Pretender, in a state of concealment, till matters were ripe for a general insurrection. The regulations for bathing at Blackpool, are certainly entitled to approbation. At the proper time of the tide, a bell rings for the ladies to assemble, when no gentlemen must be seen on the parade under the forfeiture of a bottle of wine, and on their retiring, the bell again rings to summon the gentlemen to a similar ceremony. On the sea-beach is a pleasant grass walk. A news-house and coffee-room have been established here.

BOLTON, eight miles from Manchester, is a large thriving manufacturing town. The principal streets unite at the market-place, and two of them are each nearly a mile in length. The church is only remarkable for having in its windows the shields of Chetham and Bridgeman. Here are several meeting-houses, and a good free school.

The market is on Monday. The fairs on 31 July, and October 14, and, on the day preceding each, a fair for horned cattle. Number of houses, 3,386. Inhabitants, 17,416.

BROWSHOLME, near Whalley, is a large pile of building, with a centre and two wings projecting at right angles from the ends. In the front of the centre is an ornamental facade of three stories, with pilasters of four orders of architecture, and the whole in the fashion of the reigns of Elizabeth and James I. There is a fine old library, well stored with curious, useful, and amusing literature; a collection of coins, and a valuable assemblage of manuscripts. Among the curiosities preserved here with laudable attention, is the original seal of the Common-wealth, consisting of massy silver.

DUNAL-MILL HOLE, near the village of Kellet, is a natural curiosity,—a large cavern of romantic aspect, extending for nearly 200 yards into the bowels of the hill. The mouth of the cavern is romantically fringed with trees. This rugged cavern consists of several large and small apartments, or open spaces, with intermediate

chasms. A small rivulet passes through, and issues from this cave.

FLOOKBOROUGH, near Cartmell. Near this place is a noted spa, called the Holy Well, the water of which is esteemed of service in most cutaneous diseases.

INCE BLUNDEL is situated in the parish of Sefton. The mansion is a large handsome building. Attached to this house is a new building called the Pantheon, exactly resembling the edifice of that name in Rome, though one third less in size. The assemblage of statues, busts, bass-reliefs, cinerary urns, and other ancient marbles, is not only very numerous, but many of them are esteemed the finest productions of Grecian artists.

LANCASTER, 240 miles from London, was during the Roman colonization of Britain, a military station, or garrison. The magnificent castle is spacious in plan, and commanding in situation; the whole is appropriated to the county-gaol. Contiguous to the castle, and on the same eminence, is the parish church. Many of the streets of Lancaster are narrow, but the houses are generally good. There is an extensive quay and many large warehouses. The public buildings which deserve the attention of the traveller are the various chapels, the shambles, an ancient bridge in ruins, a theatre, an assembly-room, the alms-houses, an hospital, and two charity-schools. The manufactories of the town are inconsiderable, and chiefly consist of cabinet making, spinning of twine, cotton printing, and weaving of sail-cloth. The borough of Lancaster sends *two* members to parliament; the returning officers are the mayor and two bailiffs. The corporation is composed of a mayor, recorder, 12 aldermen, two bailiffs, 12 capital burgesses, 12 common burgesses, a town-clerk, and two serjeants at mace. About one mile north-east of the town is a grand acqueduct bridge, which conveys the Lancaster canal over the river Lune. It is justly considered the most magnificent structure of the kind that has ever been erected in Great Britain.

The market is on Saturday. The fairs on May 1, July 5, and October 10. Number of houses, 5,198; inhabitants, 9,247.

LIVERPOOL, 206 miles from London. From a small inconsiderable hamlet, merely a member of the parish of

Walton, this thriving sea-port, has, within the last century, been singularly advanced in the scale of national importance, by the spirited industry, enterprising pursuits, and speculating habits of its chief inhabitants, and whilst many cities and boroughs have gradually sunk into that insignificance and degradation, which almost inevitably close the career of corruption and vassalage, Liverpool has extended her streets, augmented her commerce, and improved in the riches, arts, and luxuries of civilized life. The present prosperity of Liverpool has evidently arisen from a combination of causes; and among these may be chiefly noticed its natural situation, its free water carriage with the numerous manufacturing towns, and mines of the county, and the enlightened policy of its civil government. The Liverpool docks were the first reservoirs and harbours for the accommodation of merchandise ever constructed in this country, and may be designated the wet-docks, the dry-docks, and the graving-docks. Connected with these docks are wide and commodious quays, with large warehouses, calculated to store all such goods as are not immediately delivered to the retail dealers, &c. The direction and government of the docks are vested in the corporation, as trustees; whose accounts are annually examined and settled by seven commissioners, who are appointed for that purpose. The public structures connected with the trade and commerce of the town, are the exchange buildings, town-hall and mansion-house, custom-house, corn-exchange, tobacco and other warehouses. Of these that called the Liverpool Exchange is the most spacious in plan, and ornamental in architectural elevation. Buildings appropriated to religion are numerous and various. Among the charitable foundations may be particularly mentioned, the Blue Coat Hospital, the Public Infirmary, the Poor House, the Dispensary, and the Ladies Charity. Among the public buildings and places devoted to amusement, &c., are, the Theatre, the Athenæum, the Union News Room, the Lyceum, the Commercial New Room, the Music Hall, the Assembly Room, a Panorama, a Museum, a Freemason's Hall, and a Botanic Garden. Liverpool, as a borough, returns two members to parliament. The right of election is vested in the mayor, bailiffs, and freemen, not receiving alms.

The market is on Saturday. The number of houses, 11,784; inhabitants, 77,653.

MANCHESTER, 182 miles from London, is an immense manufacturing, mercantile, and trading town. After the Romans had possessed this station for nearly 400 years, it was re-occupied by the Britons, who soon relinquished it to the Saxons. During the dynasties of these invaders Manchester was several times a place of military conflict. It is said to have been fortified, and partly rebuilt by Edward the Elder, King of the Mercians, in 920. The buildings of the college, or hospital, resemble the college structures of the universities, and the library is large, with a valuable and numerous collection of books. At a short distance south of the college is the collegiate church, a large pile of building which occupies the site of the old parish church. Among the public buildings may be enumerated the infirmary, dispensary, lunatic hospital, and asylum, included in one spacious building; a poor-house, and another at Salford; two sunday-schools; the lying-in hospital at Salford, the house of recovery, and the stranger's friend society. Societies for the propagation of knowledge, and dissemination of useful and valuable discoveries, are numerous in Manchester; the grammar school, the literary and philosophical society, the philological society, the Manchester circulating library, the Manchester new circulating library, a new building in Mosley Street called the portico, besides other reading and literary societies; the Manchester agricultural society, and the repository, an institution adapted to encourage and reward industrious females. Among the public buildings appropriated to amusement are, the theatre, the assembly-rooms, aud a concert-room. The civil government of Manchester is vested in a boroughreeve, who is chosen annually, two constables, and a deputy constable. The township of Salford is under a similar government. The sessions are held four times a year. The lord of the manor holds a baronial court monthly for the recovery of small debts; and in Salford, which is a royal demesne, is a hundred court for the same purpose, holden once a fortnight. Manchester has been long famed for its various and extensive manufactures; but the high rank it holds in the scale of commercial importance may be

attributed to the nature and extent of the improvements introduced into the cotton-spinning trade. The spinning concerns in the town and neighbourhood are numerous, and many of them of great magnitude; some employ from 30 to 70,000 spindles, and yield upwards of 600,000 hanks per week, each hank measuring 840 yards, or in the whole 504,000,000 yards, a prodigious length to be the produce of six days' labour. The Manchester commercial building is an institution similar to that of Lloyd's Coffee House in London. The environs of Manchester abound with old mansions, respectable villas, and handsome modern seats.

The markets are on Tuesday and Saturday. The fairs on Whitmonday, October 1, and November 17. The number of houses 12,147; inhabitants 84,020.

PRESTON, 22 miles from Lancaster, is pleasantly situated on an eminence, rising from the northern banks of the river Ribble; within its boundaries, and immediate vicinity, are many large and elegant mansions. Preston obtained the privilege of a borough in the 26th of Henry II. The corporation consists of a mayor, a recorder, two bailiffs, aldermen, common council-men, and a town-clerk. This town has the advantage of being the seat of various law courts; amongst these the duchy of Lancaster has a court of chancery, in which all causes are heard and determined. In 1648, the Duke of Hamilton, who had brought an army from Scotland for the king's service, was routed on Ribbleton Moor, to the eastward of the town, and at the pass of the bridge. In the year 1715, also, the friends of the Pretender were defeated here by the forces of George I., under the command of Generals Willes and Carpenter. The mischief which was done to this town by the rebels in 1715 was the cause of its being rebuilt in a more commodious and pleasant manner; for it is now a handsome well-built town, with broad regular streets and many good houses. As a military post, Preston, from its commanding situation, has been deemed of the utmost importance in all the civil commotions of the kingdom. Near the town are many fine walks; but the most favourite is that of Enim, from which the Pretender is said to have viewed the town and the country below it, in 1745. The town-hall, as-

sembly-room, the new prison, and new bridge, are the principal public buildings.

The markets are on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. The fairs on March 27, September 7, and first Saturday after January 6. Houses, 2,169; inhabitants, 11,887.

SHAW HALL, near Chorley, is a large irregular mansion, containing some fine apartments; also a museum of natural history, and some curious fresco paintings brought from the dilapidated walls of Herculaneum. The house and grounds command some pleasing views.

SWARTMOOR HALL, half a mile from Ulverstone. This ancient mansion was the residence and property of that singular character George Fox, the founder of Quakerism.

WADDINGTON HALL, a stone house, with small ancient windows, aud a narrow winding stair-case, though now the residence of several poor families, formerly afforded shelter and protection to the meek and ill-fated King Henry VI.th after the fatal battle of Hexham, in 1463.

WARRINGTON, 182 miles from London, is a large, neat, old, but populous, and rich town. Here is a university, now reduced to a large school for want of resources. In the river Mersey, at this place, are caught sturgeons, green-backs, mullets, seals, sand-eels, lobsters, oysters, shrimps, prawns, and the best and largest cockles in England; with other shell-fish and muscles in such abundance that they are used as manure. The ale brewed here is said to be not inferior to any in the kingdom.

The market is on Wednesday. The fairs on July 18 and November 13. The number of houses, 2,258; inhabitants, 10,567.

WIGAN, 12 miles from Preston, is pleasantly situated on the river Dugles, and is a well-built town, famous for the manufacture of coverlets, rugs, blankets, and other sorts of bedding, and for its pit-coal iron-works, &c. This town is governed by a mayor, recorder, 12 aldermen, two bailiffs, a sword and mace bearer. It has a stately and well-endowed church. In this neighbourhood the Saxons were routed by the brave King Arthur, and the forces of Charles I. were defeated by the parliamentarian troops.

The markets are on Monday and Friday. The fairs on Holy Thursday, July 27, and 13 October. The number of houses, 2,177. Inhabitants, 10,989.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

Length 38 miles. Breadth 30. Circumference 150. Square miles 816. Square acres 522,240. Hundreds 6. Market towns 12. Parishes 213. Houses 30,861. Persons 155,100.—Diocese of Lincoln.—Midland Circuit.—Members to Parliament 4. Militia men 560.

BOUNDARIES.—Leicestershire is environed by the counties of Rutland and Lincoln, on the east; Nottingham and Derby on the north; Staffordshire and Warwickshire on the west; whilst part of the latter county and Northamptonshire attach to its southern border. The greatest part of this boundary is artificial, but on the south-east the rivers Welland and Avon constitute a natural line of demarkation. Leicestershire is mostly a flat country, and is chiefly appropriated to the grazing system. The climate is in general temperate, and the county well watered. Leicestershire may be considered more an agricultural than a manufacturing county, though in the article of stockings the manufacture is considerable. This fine county was, not many years ago, mostly in common or open fields, and produced a great deal of corn; since its enclosure it has been found chiefly profitable in grass, and in consequence of the present farming system, the population appears to be in a declining state.

SOIL.—It will be difficult to define the soils of the whole county, but it varies from a light sandy, or gravelly loam, to a stiff marly-loam, including all the intermediate degrees possible, between these two extremes. Very little of the land can with propriety be called a mere sandy or gravelly soil; nor is there any great quantity of it that may properly be called clay. The best soil is upon the hills; and the worst or nearest approaching to clay or cold lands, in the valleys, though there are many exceptions from this rule. The soil, or what the farmers generally call mould, is generally deep, which makes it very proper for grass.

AGRICULTURE.—Among the different breeds of sheep in this county, the old Leicester, the forest, and the new

Leicester, or Dishley, constitute the principal sorts, and of them the latter has been carried to an astonishing degree of excellence, which seems to have been first owing to the judgment and care of the late Mr. Bakewell, of Dishley, whose plan has since been pursued by others. This county is also famous for its breed of large black cart horses, and for its fine cattle. The whole county produces wheat, barley, pease, and oats, but its most natural and plentiful crop is beans. Since the commencement of the last century, cheese has become an article of some importance to the Leicestershire farmer, and a large cheese fair is annually held in the county town. The only parts of this county that are not in absolutely good cultivation are Charnwood, or Charnley forest, a tract in the northern part called the Wolds, and a similar tract in the southern side of the shire. The first consists of a rocky and bare surface, the others of a cold dark clayey soil, with a sandy surface.

MANUFACTURES in this county are confined solely to that of stockings, which has been much encouraged.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers are, the Anker, Avon, Soar, Swift, Welland, and Wreke.

The SOAR rises from two sources in the south-western part of the county, and after receiving a small tributary stream near Whetstone, passes by Leicester, thence flowing close by Mount-Sorrel, or Mount-Soar-Hill, receives two or three small rivers, and disembogues itself into the Trent.

The WELLAND has several sources near the south-east angle of the county, all of which uniting at Medbourn, leave the county between Caldecot and Rockingham.

The AVON has its source near Husbands Bosworth, and running westerly, forms the outline of the county to Dovebridge, where it enters Warwickshire.

The WREKE rises in the parish of Abkettleby, and passing by Welly, joins its waters with the Eye, whose united streams fall into the Soar, near Mount-Sorrel.

Remarkable Places.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH, 15 miles from Leicester, is a market town, pleasantly situated in a fertile vale. In its castle king James I. was entertained with his whole court, at the expense of the Earl of Huntingdon. The

town consists of several streets, all leading into the High-street. The church is spacious and handsome. The town is governed by a constable and two headboroughs, and is famous for good ale. It has a very considerable trade in malting. Near this place is a noted mineral water, called Griffydam.

The market is on Saturday. Number of houses 614; inhabitants 2,674.

BELVOIR CASTLE, four miles from Grantham, the splendid seat of the Rutland family, is the greatest ornament of the county. The original castle was founded by Robert de Todeni, who obtained the name of Robert de Belvedeir, and who was standard-bearer to William the Conqueror. The possessors of this castle and lordship have been chiefly persons of great eminence, and many of them distinguished in the historical annals of the county. The castle occupies nearly the summit of a lofty hill, up the sides of which are several stone steps, and on its southern slope are some hanging gardens, or enclosed terraces, with shrubberies, &c. In the year 1817, a dreadful fire happened here, which consumed a considerable portion of this noble fabric, but most of the pictures were preserved. The situation and aspect partly resembles Windsor. The noble mansion of Belvoir is enriched and adorned with a valuable and numerous collection of pictures, which has been described as one of the best in this kingdom, whether considered in the variety of schools which are brought together in one view, or in the judicious choice of the works of each. The following are the names of the principal artists: Nicolo Poussin, Guido, Carlo Dolci, Salvator Rosa, Claude de Lorrain, Rubens, Murillo, Teniers, and Reynolds.

BOSWORTH, or MARKET BOSWORTH, near Leicester. The battle fought near this place is a most memorable event in English history; the scene of conflict was a large open plain, or field, about three miles to the south-east of the town of Bosworth. The opposing and contending houses of York and Lancaster had created a continued succession of wars, hostilities, and personal animosities in the nation. At this eventful crisis, August 1485, a battle more desperate and sanguinary was fought than any of the former, and the issue of it tended to

unite the two families, and gave tranquillity to the nation. The contending armies were commanded by Richard III., and the Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII., when the former lost his life and crown.

BRADGATE, near Leicester. Here are the ruins of an old mansion, which was formerly magnificent and spacious. Traces of the tilt-yard are still visible, and the courts are now occupied by rabbits, and shaded with chesnut and mulberry trees. Lady Jane Grey, a native of this place, was born in 1537.

DONINGTON PARK, near Ashby de la Zouch, a seat of the Earl of Moira. The present house stands in a plain, formed by the union of three delightful valleys, which radiate from the spot in the direction of east, south, and south-west. The house is built of stone, and surrounds a court-yard. Many of the apartments in this elegant mansion are decorated with pictures, several of which are interesting, as specimens of art, and as portraits of illustrious characters. The park at Donington is celebrated for its fine old majestic oaks, and other forest trees.

GUMLEY HALL, near Market Harborough, is a large modern building, begun in 1764. Gumley, from time immemorial, has been famous for its fox-earths; here is a noted mineral spring, which has been mentioned in some very old writings.

HINCKLEY, 10½ miles from Lutterworth, is a market-town, standing on an eminence on the borders of Warwickshire. The church is a neat large structure, with a modern built spire; besides a Roman Catholic chapel, there are three meeting-houses. Its ancient town-hall, school-house, and ball-house are very curious. Here is a considerable manufactory of the coarser and cheaper sorts of wove and knit stockings. Hinckley is also noted for the goodness of its ale.

The market is on Monday; fairs on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Monday after the Epiphany, Easter Monday, the Monday before Whit-Monday, 26th August, and the first Monday after 28th October; number of houses 919; inhabitants 5,070.

HORNINGHOLD, near Uppingham, a village near Hallaton: the church is entitled to the notice of the

architectural antiquary: its southern door-way presents a curious specimen of the real Saxon style. In the church is an old octangular font, supported by two round pillars, with a large one in the centre.

LEICESTER, 97½ miles from London, during a part of the heptarchy, was a city, and has always been the chief town of the county; among the remains of antiquity found in this town and neighbourhood, the most curious relic is the military, or Roman mile-stone, which was discovered in the year 1771, on the side of the foss-road at the distance of about two miles north of the town: this antique monument was removed in the year 1783, by the corporation to its present situation in the town; of the castle there is scarcely any thing remaining but an artificial mound, with some ancient buildings called the new-ark, or new-works. The former is said to have been founded by Henry III., Earl of Lancaster, and his son Henry I., duke of that name. By these two noblemen some large buildings were erected here, and John of Gaunt, who was Earl of Leicester, &c., added considerably to this pile. Of the ancient religious buildings and foundations of this town, that of the abbey was formerly of great local importance, but its buildings are nearly levelled to that earth, which covers the ashes of its founders, patrons, monks and dependants; several Kings of England were entertained and lodged here on their excursions to and from the north. Richard II., and his Queen, with their retinue were entertained and lodged at this house, in grand and sumptuous style. The death of Cardinal Wolsey happened at this abbey, November 29th, 1530, on his journey from York to London. Leicester returned members to the national councils from the time of Edward I., and the right of election is vested in the freemen, not receiving alms, and in the inhabitants paying scot and lot; the number of voters is supposed to be about 2,000: besides several churches Leicester contains several meeting-houses. In St. Mary's and All Saints churches, are two curious ancient fonts. The late Rev. Thomas Robinson, author of Scripture Characters and other valuable works, was for many years vicar of St. Mary's, and was considered one of the most popular preachers of his day.

The county gaol was erected in this town, in the year 1791, and is built after the plan recommended by Mr. Howard, with solitary cells, &c. The town gaol is a commodious stone building. The free grammar school, was considerably augmented in 1573; several other public schools are established in the town, among which are the green coat school, St. Mary's school-house, and St. Martin's school. At the southern extremity of the town is a large pile of plain square building, called the infirmary. Adjoining the infirmary is an asylum for the reception of indigent lunatics. In an open square, called the market-place, is a plain building, known by the name of the exchange, where the town magistrates hold their weekly meetings and transact public business. The hotel, a handsome modern building, was originally intended for a coffee-house, tavern, &c., but is now appropriated to assembly-rooms and a library. The ball-room is fitted up in an elegant manner, and adjoining it is a convenient and commodious theatre. In the class of places devoted to the recreation and comfort of the inhabitants, may be noticed the new walk. Among the curiosities of the town, is the old wooden bedstead, said to have belonged to King Richard, and on which he slept, or rather reclined, the night preceding the memorable battle of Bosworth. The principal and almost only article of manufacture in Leicester, is that of stockings, which has been an established and staple commodity here for above two centuries. In this branch of commerce Leicester has no competitor of consequence except Nottingham.

The market is on Saturday; the fairs on 2nd March, Palm Saturday, Saturday in Easter-week, May 12th, July 5th, October 10th, and December 8th; number of houses 3,200; inhabitants 16,804.

LOUGHBOROUGH, 11 miles from Leicester, in size and population is the second town in the county; it consists of one parish, to which belongs the two hamlets of Wood-thorpe and Knight-thorne, both about a mile distant, each having its proper officers, and maintaining its own poor. Great part of the town is the property of the Earl of Moira. In the place of an old cross is a modern market-house, erected in 1742, and supported

by eight round brick pillars; at the upper end of the market-place stands a ruinous brick edifice, called the court chamber, where is annually held the lords leet. It is sometimes used as a ball-room and a theatre. The chief manufactures carried on at present are, hosiery, wool-combing and frame-work knitting. The Loughborough-canal has proved very serviceable to this town, and a valuable concern to the original proprietors. In the church-yard is a free grammar-school. Here is also a charity-school for 80 boys and 80 girls. The church is a large pile of building, consisting of a nave, side aisles, chancel, transept and tower. Here are four meeting-houses.

The market is on Thursday; the fairs on 28th March, 25th April, Holy Thursday, 12th August, 13th November, and 15th September; the number of houses 957; inhabitants 4,646.

LUTTERWORTH, 14 miles from Leicester, is a market town, situated on the river Swift; many of the houses are regular and well built of brick, but the more ancient buildings are of mud, covered with thatch. The church has a remarkably handsome tower, with four beautiful turrets; the pulpit is preserved in commemoration of that distinguished reformer Wickliffe, who was rector of this place, and died in 1387, of an attack of the palsy, as he was hearing mass. His body was buried in the church, but his doctrines having been condemned by the council of Constance in 1415, it was taken up and burnt in 1428, and the ashes thrown into the adjacent brook. Here is also a meeting-house; this town is a place of little trade, except in a few woollen goods.

Market on Thursday; fairs 2nd April, Holy Thursday and 16th September; number of houses 267; inhabitants 1,652.

MELTON MOWBRAY, eight miles and a half from Oakham, is a market-town, standing on the river Eye, over which it has two good bridges. The church is a large and handsome structure, in the form of a cross. The houses are in general well built, and it has a good free-school.

The market is on Tuesday, and is one of the largest in the kingdom for cattle. Fairs, first Thursday after

January 17th, Whit-Tuesday, and 21st August; number of houses 342; inhabitants 1,776.

MOUNT-SORREL, or Mount-Soar-Hill, four miles from Loughborough; a market-town, situated in the parishes of Barrow and Rothley. It was famous for its castle in the reign of Henry III., which was besieged and demolished in 1217, by the country people, in revenge for the injuries they had sustained from the depredations of the garrison. At Barrow on Soar, one mile distant, is dug a stone of great durability, with which many of the houses are built, and the streets paved. The chapel is a tolerably neat building.

The market is on Monday; fair 10th July; number of houses 218; inhabitants 1,233.

STAUNTON-HAROLD, near Ashby-de-la-Zouch; the mansion is a large pile, composed of brick and stone. The interior is spacious, and many of the rooms are decorated with pictures, &c.: in the library are the complete works of Confucius, the Chinese philosopher, in 16 quarto volumes. Here is also a curious old bugle-horn formed from an elephant's tooth, and adorned with representations of various field sports; the house stands in a fine park of 150 acres, in which is a large lake, that covers about 30 acres, and is adorned with a handsome stone-bridge.

WISTOW-HALL, near Market Harboro', was formerly the seat of the Halford family, wherein Sir Richard Halford furnished King Charles I., with a place of refuge and retirement. It is a marked feature in this part of the country, from the formal plantations which encompass the mansion, which is built with brick, and covered with stucco. The principal room is a large lofty hall, which extends nearly the whole length of the house.

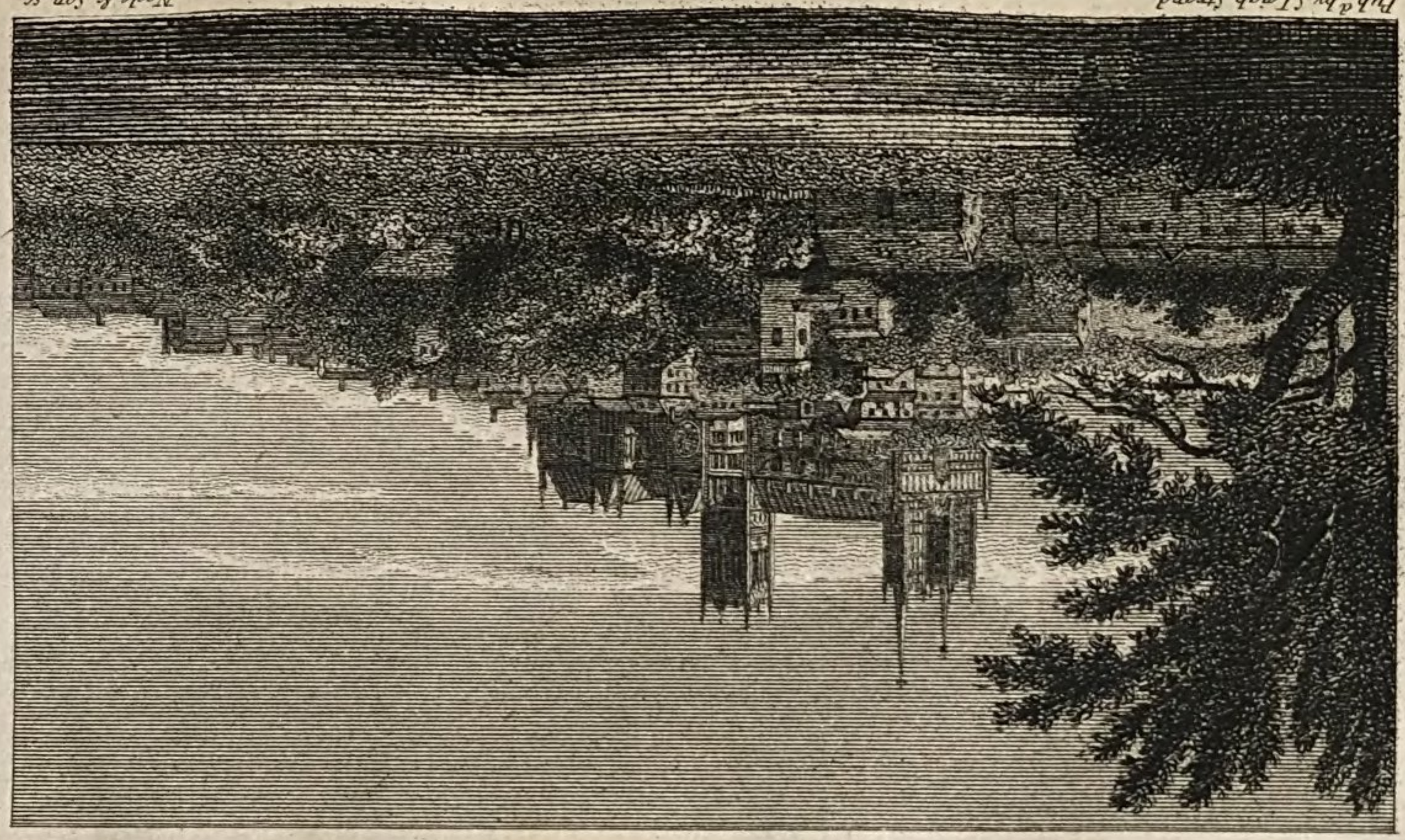
LINCOLNSHIRE.

Length 77 miles. Breadth 45. Square miles 2,787. Square acres 1,783,680. Hundreds 30. Market Towns 31. Parishes 630. Houses 47,743. Persons 245,900.—Diocese of Lincoln.—Midland Circuit.—Members to Parliament 12.—Militia-men 1,200.

BOUNDARIES.—On the north of this county flows the river Humber, which separates it from Yorkshire; on the east, the German ocean: on the south, lie Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire; and on the west, the counties of Rutland, Leicester, Nottingham, and York. The discriminating features of Lincolnshire are strongly marked by nature. Contiguous to the sea, in the southern part, is a great extent of low land, much of which was once marsh and fen, but now become by the gradual exertions of above 150 years one of the richest tracts in the kingdom. It is a region of fertility without beauty, in a climate not salubrious to the human constitution. The heaths north and south of Lincoln are calcareous hills, which command many fine views over the lower country. This county is divided into three parts, viz., Holland, Kesteven, and Lindsey. The division called the parts of *Lindsey* is much the largest. Towards the north-eastern part is a large tract of heathy land, called the Wolds. The north-western part of Lindsey contains the river island of Axholme, formed by the rivers Trent, Dun, and Idle, a rich low tract, in which great quantities of flax are cultivated. The parts of *Kesteven* contain the western portion of the county; part of the fens are in this district, but the greater part is in the remaining and smaller one of *Holland*, which occupies the south-eastern quarter of Lincolnshire, being contiguous to the shallow inlet of the sea, called the Wash.

SOIL.—The surface of this county is supposed to consist of about 473,000 acres of enclosed marsh and fen lands, 200,000 commons, wastes, and unembanked salt-marshes, 268,000 common fields, 25,000 woodlands, and 927,120 enclosed uplands. The *Wolds*, extending about 40 miles, consist of sand and sandy loam,

LINCOLN.



Pub.d by Sleigh Strand. *Neele & son sc.*

upon flinty loam, with a substratum of chalk: where friable loams prevail, rich upland pastures are seen pleasingly intermixed. From Binbrook to Caiston, with the interruption of Caiston Moor, a sandy soil prevails; and thence sand, with an intermixture of argillaceous earth, till they change into the rich loam, of which Barton Field, a space of 6,000 acres, principally consists. Beneath this line is an extensive tract of land, called the *marsh*, secured from the encroachments of the sea by embankments of earth, and divided into north and south marshes by a difference in the soil called *middle marsh*. The first comprises a large extent of rich salt lands; the second consists of stiff, cold, and tenacious clay; and the intervening land is a rich brown loam. Between these two ridges of wolds and heath, is a tract of varied but useful land, though accompanied by much of a different character. There are other fens in this county which our limits will not allow us particularly to describe.

AGRICULTURE.—The many improvements in this county have co-operated to alter its general appearance, agriculture, and climate, so much, that the surface has assumed a new aspect, and the value of land is greatly increased. Its higher grounds yield grain of all sorts in abundance; and its lower, oats, hemp, flax, woad, and almost every other article of culture. It is particularly distinguished as a grazing county, and is remarkable for rearing all kinds of animals to the greatest size and weight. It is equally famous for *horses* and *sheep*, the latter being clothed with a long thick wool, peculiarly fitted for the worsted and coarse woollen manufactures. This county is remarkable for its decoys, for taking *wild-ducks*, *teal*, and *widgeon*, the metropolis being in a great measure supplied from it. The *rabbit-warrens* of this county were formerly much more extensive than at present, yet many thousand acres are still devoted to this kind of stock. Many of the fens are lying waste, and are principally used for the breeding and rearing of *geese*, a highly valuable stock, living on those lands where nothing else will thrive; their feathers are of considerable value, and the sale of quills alone amounts to a very considerable sum.

MANUFACTURES.—Lincolnshire is only in a small degree

a manufacturing county, and has much declined both in population and consequence. A principal reason of this is the decay of its sea and river ports, which, though formerly numerous, are now almost entirely choaked up with sand, and some of them quite deserted by the ocean. The mouth of the river Witham, near which Boston is situated, being now the only inlet from the sea fit for the purpose of navigation. Two objects of considerable merchandise must be mentioned, rabbits'-fur and goose feathers. These were formerly of great consequence, and furnished articles of extensive trade. The system of enclosing waste-lands has much abridged these sources of trade.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers which either rise in this county, pass through, or are connected with it, are the Trent, the Ancholme, the Witham, the Welland, and the Glen. The *Trent* forms the boundary on the north-western side, from the village of North Clifford to that of Stockworth; whence it constitutes the eastern bouudary of the Isle of Axholme; it thence flows to Aldborough, opposite to which it receives the Dun; and a little below, beine joined by the Ouse, both mingle their waters with the Humber. The *Ancholme* is a small river rising in the Wolds, near Market Rasin, whence, flowing by Glanford Bridge, it is navigable to the Humber, and falls into that river some miles below the junction of the Trent. The *Welland* passes Market Deeping; in its course from Deeping to Croyland, it divides into two streams, the one branching to Wisbeach, and the other to Spalding and Surfleet, and empties itself into Foss-dyke Wash. The *Witham* derives its source near South Witham, and thence flows by North Witham, Coltersworth, through the park of Easton, and to Great Ponton. From Little Ponton it proceeds on the eastern side of the town of Grantham; whence it flows by Belton-park and Syston, and then turns westwardly to Long Bennington; after flowing by Claypole and Beckingham, it proceeds through a wide sandy valley to Lincoln. It afterwards flows to Grub-hill, where it turns to the south-east, and continues in this direction to Boston, and unites its waters with the sea, at a placecalled Boston Deeps.

ALGARKIRK, near Donington, has a handsome

church. In the church-yard is an image of stone, said to be the statue of Algar, Earl of Mercia, who with his gallant stewards, Wybert and Leofric, so valiantly opposed the incursions of the Danes, over whom, near this place, he obtained a decisive victory, A. D. 870., but paid for it with his life the following day.

BELLEAU, four miles from Alford, so called, from the excellent springs of water, which issue from a chalk-hill in the vicinity. Here are the remains of the abbey, consisting of two gateways, and part of a turret; over one of the entrances is a grotesque head carved in stone. The walls are covered with ivy, and over-topped by lofty ash trees. The church of Belleau is of considerable antiquity.

BOSTON, 140 miles from London, situated on the river Witham, is a market and borough-town, incorporated as early as the 50th year of King John, and sent members to the national council in the time of Edward II. The parish is about two miles in length, and one in breadth, and the town occupies about half of that extent. In a charter dated the 37th year of Henry VIII., this place was declared a borough, to be governed by a corporation, consisting of a mayor, 12 aldermen, and 18 common-council men or burgesses, a recorder, town clerk, six constables, a coroner, two serjeants at mace, and a clerk of the market. The church is a large, elegant and ancient pile of architecture, but the period of its erection is unknown; the altar is of oak, enriched by a copy of Rubens' celebrated picture, "The taking down from the cross." The tower measures 282 feet in height, and is remarkable for the beauty of its form, and for the extreme richness of its tracery, windows, buttresses, pinnacles, lantern, &c. It is perhaps, the most elegant tower in England. Boston contains several meeting-houses; among the charitable foundations in this town, are the free grammar school, the charity school, the blue coat school, and a general dispensary; a permanent library was established in 1799, and a theatre was erected in 1806. Boston, like most other places in marshy situations near the sea, experiences a deficiency of good water: there are, however, a few private wells

or reservoirs, and one public pump, which furnishes tolerably good water.

The markets on Wednesday and Saturday; the fairs on 4th May, 11th August, 22nd November and 11th December; the number of houses 1,221; inhabitants 5,926.

BURWELL PARK, near Althorp; the house is a handsome modern mansion, built about the year 1760. It is delightfully situated in a well wooded park, which is plentifully stocked with deer. Sarah, the celebrated duchess of Marlborough, was born here.

COLSTERWORTH, eight miles south of Grantham, is the village, which will ever be celebrated in the records of history, for having given birth to that great luminary in the hemisphere of science, Sir Isaac Newton.

CRESSEY HALL, near Spalding: Henry VII's. mother was once sumptuously entertained here by Sir John Horn; and the state bedstead on which she lay, is preserved in a farmer's house in the neighbourhood; at this place is a vast heronry; the herons resort here for the purpose of repairing their nests about February, and settle in the spring to breed. They are numerous and gregarious, and their nests are crowded together.

DUNSTON PILLAR, about five miles and a half from Lincoln, is a lofty column, standing in a square area, planted with trees, and enclosed by a wall. From the summit is an extensive prospect: this pillar when first built, was extremely useful for the guidance of travellers, through the intricate roads that were cut across this once extensive heath; it now only remains as a monument of the benevolence and public spirit of the person who caused it to be raised: it was erected in 1751.

GAINSBOROUGH, a market town, 18 miles from Lincoln, is pleasantly situated on the East bank of the Trent; over the river is a handsome stone bridge. The tide rises here in a very rapid manner, and produces that striking phenomenon called the Eagre, or Hygre. The town is clean, well paved, and lighted. The church is a very neat edifice, and there are several meeting-houses, and charity-schools. At the north-west end of the

town, stands an old Gothic mansion, called Old Hall, spoken of as the residence of John of Gaunt, Earl of Lincoln. When the Danes invaded England, they brought their ships close up to this town; and here Sweyn their King was assassinated, whilst he was revelling with his companions. In 868, Alfred the Great here celebrated his nuptials with Ethelfrid. This town suffered much in the civil wars of Charles I.; in the north marsh, horse-races are annually held.

Market on Tuesday; fairs, Tuesday and Wednesday in Easter week, and the first Tuesday and Wednesday after the 20th October, which last nine days each; houses 1064; and inhabitants 4506.

GRANTHAM, a borough and market-town, 14 miles from Newark, and 111½ from London, is situated on the side of the river Witham. It is governed by a recorder, 12 common burgesses, a coroner, an escheator, 12 second men, who are the common council, and six constables. It first sent members to parliament in the reign of Edward IV., who are chosen by the freemen. The church is a very elegant stone structure, with a spire 82 yards high. Here are two charity schools, and it is worthy of remark that here Sir Isaac Newton first received the rudiments of literature.

Market on Saturday. Fairs on the 5th Monday in Lent, Holy Thursday, July 10, October 26, and December 17. Houses, 605. Inhabitants, 3,303.

GRIMSBY, a borough and market town, 18 miles from Market Raisin, and 170½ from London, is one of the most ancient boroughs in the kingdom, and was a mayoralty in the reign of King John. It has returned two members to parliament ever since the reign of Edward I. The right of election is in the resident free burgesses paying scot and lot. The town is now governed by a mayor, recorder, 11 aldermen, a high steward, 12 common councilmen, 2 coroners, 2 bailiffs, 2 chamberlains, a town clerk, and three serjeants at mace. The town has several good streets, and the houses are in general well-built. The church is a very large and handsome building in the form of a cross, with a tower in the centre. It had likewise a castle and a very considerable trade, the harbour being formerly very commodious; but it is now so

choaked up, that sloops only can come up to the town. In and about Grimsby are some extraordinary fountains, called Blow Wells. The principal traffic of this town is by the river Humber in coals and salt. Here are no manufactures of any note.

The market is on Wednesday. Fairs on 6th June, and 4th September. Houses, 257; and Inhabitants 1,524.

GRIMSTHORPE CASTLE, near Bourn, in the village of Edenham, is the seat of the Duke of Ancaster. This magnificent structure stands in a fine park, 16 miles in circumference. On the north side of the castle is an avenue, which extends three quarters of a mile; to the south are the gardens and pleasure grounds; a beautiful sloping lawn descends to two lakes, comprising about 100 acres.

HARLAXTON, three miles from Grantham, has a handsome church, with a beautiful spire. The old and curious manor-house has undergone many alterations. Several fine portraits, executed by Cornelius Janssen, are here preserved.

HOLBEACH is a market town, eight miles from Spalding, of great antiquity, but indifferently built, and is seated in the fens. The church is a Gothic building, with a lofty tower and spire.

Market on Thursday; fairs May 7th, and the second Tuesday in September. Number of houses 556; inhabitants 2683.

HORNCASTLE is a market town, 136 miles from London, on the river Bane, the principal trade consists in tanning hides. It has a soke of 13 lordships, several of them having chapels. Here is a good grammar and charity school. Part of the walls of this town, which is supposed to have been the Castra Hiberna of the Romans, are in many places visible. The town being surrounded with open fields, is rendered healthy, notwithstanding its low situation, and abounds with excellent spring water; one spring is medicinal.

Market on Saturday; fairs 22d June, 21st August, and 29th October. 403 houses, and 2,015 inhabitants.

LINCOLN, 129½ miles from London, is singularly situated on the top and side of a high hill, which slopes with a deep descent to the south, where the river Witham

runs at its base. The Cathedral, or as it is usually called, the Minster, is justly the pride and glory of Lincoln. This magnificent building may be seen at the distance of 20 miles. Raised at a vast expense by the munificence of several prelates, it discovers in many parts singular skill and beauty, particularly its western front, which cannot fail to attract the attention of the most unobservant traveller. And of all the ancient fabrics of this description now remaining in England, there is not one more deserving the attention of a curious inquirer. In the cathedral is the celebrated bell, called Great Tom of Lincoln; it weighs four tons, and is 22 feet four inches in circumference. On the north side of, and connected with, the cathedral are the cloisters, of which only three sides remain in the original state. Attached to the eastern side is the Chapter House, a lofty elegant structure. The library over the north side of the cloister, contains a large collection of books, with some curious specimens of Roman antiquities. Besides monasteries, nunneries, and other buildings, erected for pious uses, Lincoln could formerly boast of more than 50 churches, exclusive of the cathedral; 11 churches only now remain. There are several places of worship for dissenters. The city has of late been considerably improved, by the making of a new road, paving some of the footways, erecting a new market-place and shambles, and lighting the streets. Lincoln has a large trade in corn and wool, and sent members to parliament as early as the time of Edward I.; the right of election is considered to be in the freemen, and the number of voters is about 1,100. Lincoln is governed by a corporation, consisting of a mayor, 12 aldermen, 2 sheriffs, 28 common-councilmen, and 4 chamberlains, who have a recorder, deputy recorder, steward of the courts of borough-mote, a town-clerk, and 4 coroners. Also a sword-bearer, mace-bearer, crier, 4 sergeants at the key, or bailiffs, constables, and other inferior officers. Like all other corporate places, the genius of trade is shackled in Lincoln. All persons who have not obtained their freedom, if they carry on any kind of trade, are obliged to pay an annual acknowledgment to the sheriffs. The remains of the castle, built by the Conqueror, convey the same idea of original Norman

architecture, as that of York, erected nearly at the same period. Within the area of the castle are the county gaol, and shire-hall. Few places in the kingdom exhibit so many ancient remains as Lincoln; Saxon, Norman, and pointed arches, and door-ways, with turrets, walls, mullioned windows, and other fragments of old dilapidated buildings, appear in every direction. The numerous remains of churches, and religious houses, are highly interesting to the antiquary, as tending to illustrate the progress of the arts and the history of past ages. The bishop's palace, when entire, was a noble structure, and scarcely exceeded in grandeur by any of our ancient castles, but was demolished during the civil war. The Jews' house is an object of great curiosity, and its front is singularly ornamented. The stonebow is a large tower gateway crossing the High-street, said to have been built about the 13th of Richard II., but from the style, probably much later. The high bridge over the river Witham is considered 500 years old. Among the other public buildings may be enumerated the market-house, two grammar-schools, now united into one; the county hospital, a general house of industry, an asylum for the insane, the city gaol, two assembly rooms, and a theatre.

The market is on Friday; the fairs on the first Tuesday after 12th April, first Tuesday after 5th July, 2d Wednesday in September, and November 12th. Number of houses 1,516; inhabitants 7,398.

LOUTH, a market town, 27 miles from Lincoln, on the river Lud. The streets are neat, and the buildings mostly of brick, and tiled, except a few cottages, which are of clay. The church is a very large building, having a spire 96 yards high, curiously constructed in an octagonal form. Louth has a canal cut from the river, northwards, which falls into the sea, about seven miles distant, and it has a considerable trade coastways. The air is very salubrious. In the park near the town stand the ruins of a Cistercian monastery. The town is incorporated under a warden and six assistants.

Markets on Wednesday and Saturday; fairs 24th, May and 16th August. Houses 893, aud inhabitants 4,236.

MOOR-TOWER. On an extensive marsh, about two

miles from Kirkstead, stands the Tower of Moor, or the Moor-Tower; it is a singular octangular brick building, of a considerable height, with a winding staircase.

NOCTON PARK, about two miles and a half from Dunston Pillar, is the handsome seat of the Earl of Buckinghamshire. It is recorded, that in the time of king Stephen, Robert de Areci, or D'Arci, erected, in his park at Nocton, a priory for black canons, of the Augustine order. The prospects are numerous, varied, and extensive; and near this mansion stands a chesnut tree, considered the finest in England.

REVESBY, near Horncastle, the seat of Sir Joseph Banks, bart., who has laudably set an example to the gentlemen of the neighbourhood, by the numerous agricultural and other improvements he has made, or suggested in the surrounding districts.

SOMERTON CASTLE, in the parish of Boothley, about eight miles south of Lincoln. In this castle, now in ruins, the King of France was confined in the reign of Edward III., by Sir Saier de Rochford, for which service he was to be allowed two shillings per day. This interesting ruin is at present occupied as a farm-house.

SPALDING, 20 miles from Peterborough, is seated in the midst of a fenny district, and encompassed by the river Welland, and an ancient drain called the Westlode, with numerous other drains in the vicinity: it is a considerable and ancient market town. The present parish church, which was built in the year 1284, is a light structure, with a handsome spire, which has crockets at the angles; its beautiful porch appears to have been added about the end of the fifteenth century. The free grammar school was established here in the reign of Elizabeth, and the petty school was founded in the year 1682. Here are also a blue coat school, and two alms-houses. For many centuries, Spalding has been the principal seat of jurisdiction for the division of Holland; the town-hall or court-house, is a substantial brick building, situated at the north-west end of the market-place; the upper rooms are used for the quarter sessions, the courts leet and baron, the court of requests, and the court of sewers. The under part of the building is let out for shops conformably to the will of the founder, and the rents appropriated to

the use of the poor. A small theatre has been erected near the market-place, and assembly and card-rooms fitted-up adjoining the town-hall. Spalding, since the river Welland was made navigable to the town, has enjoyed a good carrying and coasting trade. The river is navigable for barges of about 40 tons burthen to the centre of the town, where are good quays with spacious store houses. Various attempts have been unsuccessfully made to introduce manufactures into Spalding; the town derives its principal support at present from agriculture, and the many extensive grazing concerns carried on in the vicinity.

Market on Tuesday. Fairs on 27 April, 29 June, 28 August, 25 September, and 6th December. The number of houses, 712. Inhabitants, 3,296.

STAMFORD, a borough and market-town, 89½ miles from London, situated on the river Welland. The houses, and some of the churches, are well-built, and adorned with lofty spires. The town is governed by a mayor, 12 aldermen, and 24 burgesses, and returns two members to parliament. Here the custom of Borough English prevails, by which the younger son inherits from a father dying intestate. Over the Welland, is a fine stone bridge, and near the town is a course for horse-races. The chief trade of this town is in malt, coal, and freestone.

The markets are on Monday and Friday. Fairs, Tuesday before 13 February, Monday before Midlent, Monday before the 12th May, Monday after Corpus Christi, August 5, and November 8. Houses, 690; and 4,022 inhabitants, exclusive of the out-parish of St. Martin's Stamford Bridge, which is situated in Northamptonshire, on the opposite side of the Welland, and contains 107 houses, and 1,033 inhabitants.

STOW, near Gainsborough, though now a small village, is an archdeaconry. The church is a large cruciform structure; the western and southern entrances exhibit curious remains of the Saxon style; under the tower, was a large flat stone, inscribed in old letters, M.CCC.II. The pulpit is made of oak, and curiously carved. The clock is a piece of peculiar and curious mechanism, having a pendulum vibrating at longer intervals

than is usual. In the church likewise is a curious ancient font.

SWINEHEAD, near Boston, is a small market-town, famous for having been the first resting-place of King John, after he lost the whole of his baggage, and narrowly escaped with his life, when crossing the marshes in his military progress from Lynn to Sleaford. Of the Abbey buildings, no vestiges are left; but a mansion was erected out of the ruins.

THORNTON ABBEY, near Barton. King Henry VIII., his queen, and his attendants, were splendidly entertained in a visit they made to the abbot in the year 1541. The noble ruins of this abbey prove it to have been a magnificent building. It originally consisted of an extensive square, surrounded by a deep ditch, with high ramparts. The gatehouse, which formed the western entrance, is nearly entire. The grand entrance arch is still perfect. The front has been richly ornamented with cornices, niches, and statues. Over the gateway are two rooms, and four handsome hexagonal towers form the four angles.

TORKSEY, near Lincoln, situated at the junction of the Fossdyke, with the Trent, is a small obscure village, but a place of high antiquity, and formerly of considerable consequence. The present castle is founded on the Roman granary, which much resembled Colchester Castle, having circular towers at the corners; the foundation is still visible all along the edge of the original site. The present remains of the castle exhibit a western front, with four irregular turrets, placed at unequal distances, and a fragment at the south end, originally part of the offices, now converted into stables; it stands about 60 yards from the bank of the river, which sometimes flows up to the foot of the ruins.

MIDDLESEX.

Length 22 miles. Breadth 17. Circumference 155. Square miles 297. Square acres 190,080. Hundreds 6. Market towns 6. Parishes 194. Houses 137,750. Persons 985,100.—Diocese of London.—Western Circuit.—Members to Parliament 8.—Militia-men 1600.

BOUNDARIES.—The shape of this county is very irregular, but nearly resembles a quadrangle. On the northern side it is separated from Hertfordshire by artificial boundaries; on the southern side from Surry by the Thames; on the west the river Colne divides it from Buckinghamshire; and on the east runs the river Lea, parting it from Essex. The irregularities of the surface conduce essentially to health, ornament, and beauty, though but few parts of the county exhibit scenes of a very picturesque character. Within a few miles from London, the gently swelling eminences of Highgate, Hampstead, and Muswell Hill, skreen the metropolis from the northern wind, and break the uniformity of the horizon. The climate is generally healthy, as the greater part of the soil is naturally dry, and the damper situations are well drained.

SOIL.—The banks of the Thames, the Colne, and the Lea, consist of luxuriant meadows, principally composed of a rich loamy soil. The prevailing soils are loam and clay, or sand and gravel, interspersed with loamy clay. The south-western angle of the county is chiefly a loamy sand, appropriated to the growth of turnips and barley, on a subsoil of siliceous gravel, with a great depth of tenacious leaden-coloured earth beneath, used by tile makers. On the east side of the county, the substratum is of the same description, with a subsoil also of small siliceous gravel, on a compact leaden-coloured earth. On the west of Hounslow and Hanwell, the soil is a sandy loam. The Isle of Dogs, containing about 1,000 acres, is a peculiarly rich loam. The moors between Rickmansworth and Staines consist principally of peat, on a subsoil of siliceous gravel. The clay in the immediate vicinity of the metropolis has in many parts been dug up for the purposes of brick making. With the exception of the gardens and

nurseries adjoining London, and the Thames, and a strip of arable land extending northward from Tottenham beyond Enfield, the whole of the eastern part of Middlesex may be described as meadow and pasturage; the remaining and western division, excepting the commons, moor, and meadow land on the borders of the Colne, and upper parts of the Thames, is chiefly arable.

AGRICULTURE.—This county, from its undulating surface, is particularly adapted to the purposes of agriculture. The corn grown in this county consists principally of wheat and barley; rye and oats are but little cultivated. The green and root crops are various. About 10,000 acres are annually sown with wheat, 4,000 acres with barley, about 3,000 acres are occupied with beans, and nearly the same quantity with pease. The pease intended to be gathered green, succeed clover, corn, or any other crop. The pease allowed to ripen are partly used for soup and pease puddings, and the remainder ground with inferior wheat into meal. Turnips are sown in the broad cast-method, and hoed twice by hand; they are generally used as food for cows. A few acres near Tothill Fields, are appropriated to the growth of liquorice, and about 20 acres on the Uxbridge road are employed for hops. The upland meadow and pasture lands are extremely productive, owing to the state in which the ground is kept by the great supply of manure from the metropolis. Meadow land in the occupation of cow-keepers, is generally mown two or three times in summer. The richest grass land is that in the Isle of Dogs. The method adopted by the Middlesex farmers in hay-making, is superior to any used in the other counties; the districts near London generally produce two crops of hay every year, but those in the remote parts but seldom yield more than one. The fruit gardens, exclusive of those belonging to private houses, occupy about 3,000 acres, and are most of them situated on the road passing through Hammersmith, Brentford, Isleworth, and Twickenham. The fruit gardeners have what is termed an upper and under crop growing on the same ground at one time; some of these gardens have walls completely covered with fruit trees. The nursery grounds occupy about 1,500 acres in the vicinity of Brompton, Kensington, Chelsea, Hackney, Dalston, and Bow. The kitchen

gardens include about 2,000 or 3,000 acres, and are partly cultivated by the spade, and partly by the spade and plough. The numerous islands of the Thames, and the wet borders of that river supply osiers for the use of basket-makers, and for other purposes. The manures used in this county are various, but are principally brought from the metropolis; they consist of stable litter, night soil, and soot, marl dug at Enfield Chase is likewise employed. The quantity of live stock in this county is less than in any other for the number of acres, with the exception of cows kept for supplying milk, which are extremely numerous. The sheep are not of any particular breed; the numerous ewes kept for supplying the London market with house lambs, are of the Dorsetshire breed. The number of horses kept in this county is about 30,000. Those used for agricultural purposes, and by brewers and distillers, are principally of the Leicestershire breed. A considerable quantity of poultry, pigeons, and rabbits, are bred in this county for the London market. The landed property of Middlesex is very much divided, and the farms are generally small, the largest not exceeding 600 acres. The waste and common lands do not exceed 9,000 acres, the woodlands and copses about 3,000 acres.

MANUFACTURES are numerous and important, both as to magnitude and value. The metropolis is a grand mart for every article of elegance or use; the following are amongst the principal articles made in London, or in its vicinity: furniture, jewellery, gold and silver ornaments, cut glass, cutlery, japanned wares, cabinet work, gentlemen's carriages, gilt frames, watches, machines of various descriptions, apparel, porter, sugar, soap, candles, artificial stone, bricks, hats, plate glass, &c.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers connected with this county are, the Thames, the Brent, the Colne, the Cran, the Lea, and the New River.

The THAMES rises at Thames-head in Gloucestershire, about two miles from Cirencester. It enters Berkshire a short distance from Fairford, and flows into Middlesex, where it mingles with the Colne near Staines. Between Staines and Sunbury it crosses the meadows with a bold sweep, occasionally broken by lesser wavings. At Chertsey the river flows through a stone bridge, and advancing

to Weyb ridge, receives the waters of the Wey; then flow-
ing onwa rd through luxuriant meadows, it glides under
Walton bridge. Between Hampton and Kingston the
Thames winds round the gardens, and part of Hampton
Court; th en passing Teddington, rolls onward to Twicken-
ham, Ric hmond, Kew, Isleworth, and Brentford; its
banks bei ng interspersed with magnificent villas. Ham-
mersmith, Putney, and Fulham, are respectively washed
by this m ajestic stream, which swells into an extensive
reach abo ve Battersea bridge, where it may be said to
enter the British metropolis. After passing under the
bridges of Vauxhall, Westminster, Waterloo, Blackfriars,
and South wark, it reaches London bridge, which forms
the bound ary between the river and sea navigation. It
then flows to the ocean, between the shores of Essex and
Kent.

The BRE NT has its source in Hertfordshire, and enter-
ing Middles ex, near Finchley, passes by Henbury, Kings-
bury, Twyf ord, Greenford, and Hanwell, to Brentford,
where it fal ls into the Thames.

The COLN E enters the county from Hertfordshire, and
crosses the parishes of Harefield, Uxbridge, and Cowley,
towards Col nbrook and Longford, where it separates into
numerous b ranches, which after giving motion to several
mills, falls i nto the Thames.

The CRAN, rising in the vicinity of Pinner and Har-
row, flows u nder Cranford bridge, and crossing Hounslow
heath, falls i nto the Thames near Isleworth.

The LEA bounds the whole eastern side of Middlesex,
and enters th e Thames at Bow creek.

The NEW RIVER is supplied by several small springs
which rise in Hertfordshire, and is increased by part of
the waters o f the Lea, near Ware, whence it passes by
Amwell, Hoo ldesdon, and Cheshunt, and enters Middlesex
near Waltha m Cross, from which place it flows into a re-
servoir at Isl ington, termed the New River Head.

The MINERAL SPRINGS of this county are principally
in the neigh bourhood of London. The Islington Spa,
the chief of these, from which Spafields derived their
name, is the principal. At Bagnigge Wells are springs,
both chalybe ate and cathartic. At Hampstead are seve-
ral chalybea te and neutral saline springs. St. Chads,

Kilburn, and Acton wells, are impregnated with calcareous nitre.

CANALS.—Middlesex is intersected by three canals: the Grand Junction, the Paddington, and the Regent's canal. The first joins the Thames at Old Brentford, and leaves the county near Rickmansworth. By means of this canal and its various branches, a direct communication is formed between London and the various towns of Derbyshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, and Lancashire.

The PADDINGTON CANAL branches off from the Grand Junction, near Cranford, whence it is continued to the dock at Paddington.

The REGENT'S CANAL passes from the canal at Paddington, across the Hampstead and Kentish Town roads, through Islington and Hackney to Limehouse, where it joins the Thames.

Remarkable Places.

ARNO'S GROVE at Southgate, is a noble family residence. The pictures which adorn this tasteful mansion are select and valuable; here are also numerous Etruscan vases, and articles from Herculaneum and Pompeii, together with four thousand specimens of minerals and rare shells. The parts nearest to the house, present a fine display of hardy exotics; in the hot-houses are curious plants from every quarter of the globe.

BRANDENBURGH HOUSE, a seat of her serene highness the Margravine of Anspach, is agreeably situated on the banks of the Thames, in the vicinity of Hammersmith. Although touched by the hands of distinguished improvers, this edifice is by no means conspicuous for architectural beauty. The grounds are not extensive, and are chiefly estimable for the fine views which they command of the river and its fertile banks.

BRENTFORD, seven miles from London, is seated on the great western road, and derives considerable advantages of trade from its situation on so important a thoroughfare. This is deemed the county town, as the elections for Middlesex are now held in this place; but there is no town-hall, nor have the inhabitants any corporated association, or peculiar privileges. The town is mentioned as the theatre of a conflict between Edmund Ironside and

the Danes in 1016. On the 14th of July, 1558, six persons suffered death at the stake in this place, in consequence of maintaining religious opinions different to those of the existing government. On the 12th of November, 1642, a battle was fought here, between some of the royal troops, and seven regiments in the service of the parliament.

Market on Tuesday, fairs 18th May, and 13th September. Number of houses 277 ; inhabitants 1,443.

CANE-WOOD, or KEN-WOOD, the seat of the Earl of Mansfield, lies to the north-east of the village and heath of Hampstead. The mansion is enriched by a home domain of a peculiarly attractive character, and the building itself ranks among the most estimable in the neighbourhood of the metropolis. The interior is spacious but not vast; and the embellishments are at once ample and unassuming. The grounds disposed as garden-scenery comprise about 50 acres. This spot possesses much natural beauty. The undulations are gentle yet sheltering; and that deep mass of woodland which imparts a name to the domain is an adjunct of the picturesque rarely found in the close vicinage of the metropolis.

CHELSEA, a village rendered of great interest by many circumstances connected with biographical record, and by two national establishments of the most munificent description, is desirably situated on the northern bank of the river Thames. The Royal Hospital is one of the noblest ornaments which a brave and free nation can possess;—an asylum for the wounded and superannuated soldiers who have fought her battles. The Royal Military Asylum is a fine auxiliary to the hospital founded by King Charles. In the former, the veteran, exhausted by service, finds repose ; in the latter, the offspring of the soldier, who dies in the service of his country, or who toils in it, subject to oppressive family circumstances, meets with shelter, with education, with national adoption.

CHISWICK is situated on the bank of the river Thames, at the distance of about five miles from Hyde Park Corner. The parish contains nearly 1,200 acres of land, one fourth of which is occupied by market-gardens. The greater part of this village is far from being of an

attractive character, but the neighbourhood is adorned by several fine and interesting mansions.

CHISWICK HOUSE, a seat of his Grace the Duke of Devonshire, is an elegant villa, planned and constructed by the celebrated Earl of Burlington. The design of the house is partly taken from that by Palladio, which has produced so many imitations—the villa of Marquis Capra, near Vicenza. The central part of the edifice contains the whose of his design. Two wings, planned by Wyatt, were added by the late Duke of Devonshire. The interior has many claims to admiration, and is enriched by a fine collection of paintings, chiefly formed by the Earl of Burlington. The Gardens attached to Chiswick House were laid out by the Earl of Burlington in the Italian style, with a redundancy of statues, vases, and other sculptural embellishments. The pleasure-grounds comprise about 32 acres, and are amply adorned by wood and water. Many of the statues placed in different parts of the garden are antique; and three of them were dug up in Adrian's garden, at Rome. The Emperor Alexander of Russia, the King of Prussia, and many illustrious persons in attendance on those monarchs, were entertained by the Duke of Devonshire at his Chiswick residence, in the year 1814.

FINCHLEY is situated to the west of the northern road, at the distance of eight miles from London. The few historical events which relate to Finchley are connected with its former common. Here General Monk drew up his forces on the 3rd of February, 1660, and several regiments were encamped at the same place in 1780, on account of the disgraceful riots which then prevailed in the metropolis. The guards halted here upon marching towards Scotland during the rebellion of 1745. Finchley is a small but respectable village; and as the principal houses are almost invariably detached, the place retains a character agreeably rural. In different parts of the parish, particularly in those towards the common side, are many substantial and handsome villas.

FULHAM is an ancient village, situated on the bank of the Thames, at the distance of four miles from Hyde Park Corner. The whole parish is fertile, and highly cul-

tivated, though a small part only is employed in agriculture; the greater proportion being laid out in nursery-grounds and gardens, from which the metropolis draws a large supply of fruit and culinary vegetables. The Middlesex bank of the river in the vicinity of Fulham, is ornamented with numerous fine mansions, of which the principal is the palace of the Bishop of London, which has been from a very early period, the principal summer residence of the Bishops of the metropolitan see. The principal manufactory is that of stone jars, pots, &c. The fisheries demand notice as a source of local profit; the principal fish caught in this part of the river are, salmon, very rarely; barbel, in great abundance; eels and lampreys; smelts, only few of which have lately appeared; roach and dace (chiefly valuable for their scales, which are sold to the Jews, to assist in the manufacture of false pearls, &c.,)—flounders and shads; sturgeon, the royal fish claimed by the lord mayor, and usually forwarded by that magistrate to the court, rewards the fisher's toil but very rarely.

HACKNEY, in circumference about 11 miles, was a place of much fashion and consideration in the 16th and 17th centuries. Early in the 18th century, it became the favorite resort of wealthy citizens; it occupies a flat site, and the buildings are too frequent to allow a preservation of rural character. The village, if considered independently of its hamlets, chiefly consists of four streets, termed Church Street, Mare or Mere Street, Grove Street, and Well Street. The Middlesex county meetings are held here.

HAMPSTEAD is a most desirable village, distant from London about four miles. Much of this district is still in the hands of the farmer, but scarcely any land is subject to arable cultivation. The farms are small, and considerable portions of meadow ground are attached to the villas of private gentlemen. The greater part of Hampstead is seated on an eminence, and from this circumstance the atmosphere is necessarily dry and sanative, and the place has, with propriety, been long the summer residence of merchants, bankers, and other opulent persons. Hampstead Heath comprises a large expanse of common land, which is of little value in the opinion of the

farmer, but ranks high in the esteem of the naturalist, and the admirer of the picturesque. Many rare plants are found in this district; and the views of the heath excel, in extent and felicity of combination, any in the vicinity of the metropolis.

HARROW ON THE HILL, 10 miles north-west of London, is a village of prominent interest on account of its school, one of the most prosperous in England, for classical education. The chief ornamental residence in the village, is the manor house of Flambards; the pictures are not numerous, but have been selected with much judgment. Here is also a valuable collection of cabinet medals.

HIGHGATE. This populous hamlet is situated on the northern road, 4½ miles from the metropolis. This village, from its bold situation on the ascent and top of a hill, commands extensive views, and the air is bracing and healthful. Here are many substantial dwellings.

HIGHGATE ARCHWAY. The building composing this archway is sufficiently massive, and presents a striking and ornamental object to the traveller, either approaching or leaving the metropolis. From the path-way of the bridge, there is an excellent view of the surrounding country, and of many buildings in the capital.

HOLLAND HOUSE, the property of Lord Holland, is an interesting specimen of the architectural style, which prevailed in the early part of the 17th century. The chief part of the structure was raised by Sir Walter Cope, in the year 1607. The apartments into which the interior of this mansion is divided are spacious. The domain attached to this fine seat comprehends about 300 acres, of which about 63 acres are used as pleasure ground. The grounds on the northern side are disposed with much simplicity and good taste. The gardens are provided with warm and cold baths.

HAMPTON COURT is a royal palace, situated on the northern border of the river Thames, about one mile from the village of Hampton, and is, perhaps, the most magnificent of all the royal palaces in England. In the latter part of his reign, this became the favourite residence of Henry VIII., whose queen, Jane Seymour, expired here on the 14th of October, 1537.

On the 8th of August, 1540, the ill-fated Catherine Howard was openly shewn as queen at this palace, with much splendour, and many joyous celebrations. After she was consigned to the scaffold, King Henry here received the hand of Catherine Parr. Philip and Mary sometimes visited Hampton, with mingled gravity and pomp; and Queen Elizabeth, whose love of festivity and show contributed much to her popularity, often held her gay court on this spot. In this palace was held the celebrated conference between the presbyterians and the members of the established church, which led to a new translation of the Bible, and some alterations in the liturgy. It does not appear that Charles I. was much attached to Hampton Court. Such of his visits as stand prominent in record are connected with seasons of disaster. Oliver Cromwell, enriched by the wreck of the state, acquired possession of this palace before the year 1657, and constituted it one of his principal places of residence. Charles II., forgetful of a royal parent's misery, often enjoyed the song and dance of revelry in this palace; and his successor the ill-advised James, occasionally resided here. King William and Queen Mary evinced their attachment to the situation of Hampton Court, by re-building the state apartments, and some other important divisions of the palace. The sister of Queen Mary, then Princess of Denmark, and afterwards Queen Anne, gave birth to the Duke of Gloucester, in this palace. The sovereigns of the house of Brunswick have not shewn any great partiality for this royal abode. When his Serene Highness the Prince of Orange was compelled to quit his own dominions in the year 1795, and to seek an asylum in Great Britain, this palace was appropriated to his use, and he resided here for several years. The principal domestic parts of Hampton Court are now occupied by different private families, who have grants for life from the crown. The Cartoons of Raffaelle at present adorn the palace, and they constitute the great pictorial boast not only of this royal building, but of the country to which the care of preserving them has devolved. These Cartoons were executed by Raffaelle, in attention to the desire of Pope Leo X., and they were sent into Flanders to be copied in tapestry of the richest kind. In that country they remained obscure

and almost forgotten, until Rubens informed King Charles I. of their existence and situation. The pleasure gardens attached to the palace comprise about 44 acres. Hampton Court is placed on a spot naturally flat and uninviting. The gardens, as now seen, were laid out in the reign of William III., by London and Wise. The lawns are shaped with mathematical precision, and are bordered with meagre evergreens, placed at given distances. Broad gravel walks intersect this graceless display, and statues and vases, which deserve a more appropriate arrangement, are placed in formal opposition to each other at measured points. The whole interior of the grape-house is occupied by one vine of the black Hamburgh kind, which was planted in the year 1769, and has been known to produce in one year 2,200 bunches of grapes, weighing on an average one pound each. In the wilderness, adjoining the building, is a curious maze which attracts great attention.

HOUNSLOW consists of one wide street, plentifully lined on both sides with inns and public houses The chief dependence of the place is on the immense tide of road traffic, which rolls to and from the metropolis. *Hounslow Heath* adjoining the village on the west, lies in several parochial districts, and a considerable portion has lately been brought into profitable cultivation. This flat and extensive spread of land has afforded a convenient place of rendezvous to various armed associations.

ISLEWORTH is a small village on the banks of the Thames. Large quantities of raspberries are grown here for the use of the distillers, and much fruit for the table is likewise forwarded to the London markets. The fruit intended for Covent Garden market, is carried thither in weighty loads, by women. Richard, Earl of Cornwall, had a mansion on his estate, within this parish. In the year 1263, Simon de Montfort, with the refractory barons, encamped in the park belonging to this mansion. In the month of August, 1647, when the kingdom was divided into three parties, and each party was in arms, Fairfax fixed his head quarters in Isleworth for a few days. On the 4th of August he had at this place a meeting with the parliamentary commissioners.

ISLINGTON, from a very early period of our history

has been famous for its dairies. This circumstance, together with the general beauties of the place, and its proximity to the capital, have caused it to be always a spot much frequented by the citizens. The most ancient and interesting building in this parish is Canonbury House.

KENSINGTON possesses a perpetual source of attraction in its regal palace, a structure in which several successive sovereigns held their court; and the neighbourhood is likewise farther embellished by a noble residence, erected early in the 17th century, called Holland House,

KENSINGTON PALACE is an irregular pile, chiefly built by William III., but considerably altered and enlarged by succeeding monarchs. The structure is composed of brick, and the principal division inclines in shape towards a square, and shews three fronts on the garden side. The interior is well calculated for the accommodation of a numerous household; but only few of the state-apartments, with the exception of the galleries, are of commanding or pleasing proportions. Kensington Palace was the favourite residence of King William. Queen Anne frequently resided here. Kensington was equally favoured by George I. and the late king. By Queen Caroline, the excellent consort of George II., the most important alterations in the building were effected; and under her directions the principal embellishments were bestowed on the interior. All these royal personages breathed their last within the palace with the exception of George I. George, Prince of Denmark, consort of Queen Anne, likewise expired at Kensington, in the year 1708. The gardens attached to Kensington Palace form a fine ornament to the western border of the metropolis, and are well known as a fashionable promenade during the summer month. In figure they approach the quadrangular form, and afford many points of conspicuous beauty, though still there is much in the mode of their disposal which a critical examiner will scarcely fail to censure.

LONDON. The immediate site of this vast metropolis is about 60 miles west from the sea, on the banks of the Thames, occupying a gentle slope on the north side of that celebrated river, and an almost uniform flat surface on its southern side. The soil of this district is gravel and clay, with a mixture of loam and sand; and to the abun-

dance of clay, and the facility it affords of making bricks, a part of the rapid increase of building may probably be attributed. London is eminently fortunate in one of the first grand requisites to the health and convenience of a flourishing capital: it is situated on a river of ample extent and excellent water, which carries a tide fifteen miles beyond it, and is, at the same time, all that can be desired as a medium of commerce. The mean breadth of the Thames at London is about a quarter of a mile; and its usual depth about 12 feet. On the Middlesex shore of the river, the buildings of the metropolis, following the natural bend of the river, arise in the form of an amphitheatre from east to west, in consequence of the gentle rise of the ground from the water-side. The Surrey shore, having been recovered from a marsh, is of course a flat, but it is now covered with a line of habitations, which (including Southwark) from Vauxhall to Deptford, presents an extent of seven miles; the whole forming an assemblage of human habitations, second to none but that which distinguished ancient Rome in its prosperity; but at this time certainly the largest in the world.

London, considered generally as the capital of the British empire, includes not only the city and its liberties, but Westminster, Southwark, and many villages both in Middlesex and Surrey. Thus regarded, its extent from west to east, or from Knightsbridge to Poplar, is about seven miles and a-half. Its breadth from north to south, or from Newington Butts to Islington, is nearly five miles. The circumference of the whole, allowing for various inequalities in the extension of streets, &c., at the extremities, cannot be less than 30 miles. Hence it may be fairly estimated, that the buildings of this metropolis cover, at least, eighteen square miles. Out of these must be deducted the space occupied by the river Thames, for a length of seven miles, by a breadth of about a quarter of a mile.

Independently of various local and civil divisions, London may be said to consist of five distinguishing parts, or popular divisions:—the west-end of the town, the city, the east-end of the town, Westminster, and the Borough of Southwark.

The " west-end of the town" consists of various handsome squares and streets, occupied by the town-houses of the nobility and gentry, and the most fashionable shops.

The " city" includes the central part and most ancient division of the metropolis. This is the emporium of commerce and business of all descriptions, and is occupied by shops, warehouses, public-offices, and houses of tradesmen, and others connected with business.

The " east-end of the town," and its inhabitants, are devoted to commerce, to ship-building, and to every collateral branch connected with merchandise.

" Southwark," and the whole of the southern banks of the Thames, from Deptford to Lambeth, bears some resemblance to the " east-end" of the town, being occupied by persons engaged in commercial and maritime concerns. But this part of London has one distinguishing feature from any other, as it abounds with numerous and various manufactories, iron-founderies, glass-houses, soap-boiling and dye-houses, shot and hat-manufactories, and many other similar establishments. From the great number of fires employed in these houses, and the offensive effluvia arising from some of the works, this district is extremely unpleasant, if not unhealthy, for human residence. It is, therefore, chiefly inhabited by workmen, labourers, and the lower classes of society. Many improvements have, however, been made, and many respectable houses erected, in St. George's Fields.

" Westminster" contains the houses of the British legislature, the courts of justice, and many offices connected with Government.

Another part of the metropolis, which may be considered as the last enlargement, and the most systematic in its arrangement of squares and streets, is the northern side of the town, comprehending a large mass of new buildings, between Holborn and Somer's Town, and in the parishes of Mary-le-bone and Paddington.

The increase in the size and population of the British metropolis within very few years is truly amazing. It is no unusual event to meet in society persons who recollect those portions of what must now be called the metropolis when they were nothing but fields or swamps; and this remark forcibly applies to Mary-le-bone, St. George's

Fields for miles round, Russel and Brunswick Squares, and on to Somer's Town, Vincent Square, once called Tothill-fields, &c. Nay, such has been the rapid extension of LONDON, that many of those parts of it that are thickly strewed with houses, were formerly known as villages. Northumberland-house, at the end of the Strand, which is almost in the heart of the metropolis, was heretofore described as situated in the "*Village of Charing*;" and, when the Earl of Burlington was asked "why he built his house in Piccadilly, so far out of town!" he answered, "because I was determined to have no building *beyond me!*"

At this time, London is computed to contain 70 squares, and 8,000 streets, lanes, rows, places, courts, &c. The houses are said to amount to no less than 160,000; and, we scarcely need add, that the situation of the metropolis on the shores of the Thames, as already described, commands, in a great degree, the course of the principal streets. These run like the river from east to west. There are two main trunks of communication from one end of the town to the other. The most southern of these, for the greater part of the way, is within a quarter of a mile of the Thames. It may be said to commence from St. James's Palace, or probably from Hyde Park Corner, through the Strand, Fleet-street, St. Paul's Church-yard, Watling-street, &c., to the Tower. The northern line of streets commences at Bayswater, on the Uxbridge, to Mile-end, on the Essex, road: leading directly through Oxford-street, Holborn, Skinner-street, Newgate-street, Cheapside, Cornhill, Leadenhall-street, and Whitechapel, a course of at least six miles, with very little undulation. These great avenues, the first of which may be termed the southern, and the other the northern, line of the metropolis, run nearly parallel to each other; and in no part of London can a stranger be far distant from one or other of them, as the streets running north and south which connect them are comparatively short, as are also those from the Strand, &c., to the water-side. Those from the northern line to the New-road, &c., are longer, but still of a moderate length.

All the streets of London are paved with great regularity, with a footstep divided from the carriage-way, and

laid with flags; the latter is formed by small square blocks of Yorkshire and Scotch stone. The foot-path is paved with a regular kirb, raised some inches above the carriage-way; of course the accommodation to the foot-passenger must depend upon the breadth of the avenue; but as every alteration and improvement, for many years past, has tended to widen the streets and lanes of the metropolis, the narrow avenues which admit carriages are gradually increasing in convenience to the pedestrian. In those whose ideas of the beauty and grandeur of a great town are formed upon the notions they have obtained from the remains of Greek and Roman architecture, London will not excite much admiration. The dull uniformity, presented by rows of brick buildings, of the same general form and appearance, possesses very little attraction for the eye; but nothing else is wanting to convey an adequate conception of the opulence, ingenuity, and industry, of a great capital; and with respect to the inside of the dwellings of the metropolis, they are unrivalled for grandeur, elegance, and convenience, according to the respective ranks of those to whom they belong. The shops are also unrivalled, both in external appearance, and the riches and variety of the articles on sale. In whatever respect London may fall short of Rome, and some of the other cities of Italy, for architectural splendour, it is more than compensated by the comfort and convenience which have been procured by increasing information and practical science. No doubt, taking London as a whole, there is still much to be done, particularly on the shores of the Thames, where the wharfs and mercantile accommotion are, in many places, exceedingly incommodious and mean: but the grand docks, formed within these few years, under the names of London, West India and East India Docks, shew what can be effected by joint effort; and although in respect to individual efforts, private interests and the sanctity of property render improvement very gradual, yet even in this confined direction it is perceptibly gaining ground, and, with a reasonable share of national prosperity, in a few years the shores of the fine river on which the metropolis is seated, will present an appearance worthy the commercial fame and enterprise of the first mercantile city in the world. For further

particulars we must refer the reader to LEIGH'S NEW PICTURE OF LONDON AND ITS ENVIRONS.

MUSWELL HILL, distant about five miles and a half from London, is situated north of Highgate. From this elevation are commanded beautiful and varied prospects, and here are constructed numerous detached villas, in every respect calculated to embellish a spot so rich in rural scenery.

OSTERLEY HOUSE, the property of the Earl of Jersey, situated west of Brentford, is of a quadrangular form, enclosing a central area or court. The material of the whole pile, independent of the portico and balustrade, is brick. The principal rooms of this mansion are of stately proportions, and are finished with much cost and delicacy. The gallery is 130 feet in length, and contains many select and valuable pictures by the old masters, together with some fine portraits. The library is fitted up with much elegance. Osterley House stands nearly in the centre of the park, a district comprising about 350 acres. The gardens are very extensive.

PANCRAS takes its name from the saint to whom its church is dedicated, a youthful Phrygian nobleman, who suffered death under the Emperor Dioclesian, for his zealous adherence to the Christian faith. The increase of buildings within the last half century has been so great, that the parish, in its southern parts, has now few spots partaking in the least degree of a rural or sequestered character. The old church of St. Pancras was built about the fourteenth century; it has no pretensions to architectural beauty, and is lamentably small in proportion to the present population of the parish. The church-yard contains the ashes of many distinguished personages; for the particulars of which, see LEIGH'S NEW PICTURE OF LONDON. A new church has lately been erected in the New Road. Pancras affords within its limits the site of several distinguished and most useful charitable institutions.

PRIMROSE HILL, situated at the southern extremity of the parish of St. Pancras, near the road to London, has obtained some historical notoriety, from its connexion with the murder of Sir Edmundbury Godfrey. It commands a fine view of the metropolis, and is a place of great resort.

SION, or SYON HOUSE, a seat of his grace the

Duke of Northumberland, and one of the most conspicuous ornaments of this highly-enriched county, is situated near the banks of the Thames, between Old Brentford, and the village of Isleworth. Sion House was selected for the imprisonment of the ill-fated Catherine Howard, while the sentence was preparing, that was to remove her for ever from the presence of her sated husband. On the 14th February, 1548, the corpse of King Henry VIII., was rested in these conventual buildings on its way towards Windsor; it was here that Lady Jane Grey, reluctantly accepted the crown, to which she had no legitimate claims. Sion House is a structure of magnificent dimensions, composed of stone, and built in a quadrangular form. The numerous capacious apartments, appropriated to family use, are fitted up with great elegance; in these rooms are interpersed some valuable pictures; the attached grounds were chiefly arranged by Brown, and are well adapted to the magnificence of the mansion. On the north side of the domain, is a park richly shaded by wood of a venerable growth; the garden scenery in the opposite division is tastefully designed; in water, the great auxiliary of the picturesque, these grounds are peculiarly affluent. The plantations abound in beautiful exotics, and are disposed in forms productive of breaks and recesses of a truly picturesque character. The flower garden and the gardens for the growth of culinary vegetables, are detached from the mansion, and are provided with extensive forcing-houses. This mansion has undergone very considerable repairs, since the death of the late Duke.

SMALLBURY GREEN, is distant from London about eight miles and a half on the Western road; at this place is Spring Grove, a seat of Sir Joseph Banks, Bart., a substantial, but unornamented brick mansion; the interior, though not on an extensive scale, is commodious, and fairly suited to the temperate and elegant style of hospitality, in which the distinguished proprietor is well known to live. The name of its eminent possessor is sufficient to impart interest to this mansion; the gardens are extensive, and contain a fine collection of exotics.

STAINES, 16 miles from London, which is a market

town, forms the entrance to Middlesex, from the great western road. The town chiefly consists of one street. The parish church is more than a quarter of a mile from the town, it is a building of various ages, the whole is in the Gothic or pointed style; part of the building was made from a design of Inigo Jones. In a small apartment under the staircase, is presented the singular spectacle of two unburied coffins containing human bodies; the coffins are covered with crimson velvet. A Lancasterian school has lately been established here.

Market on Friday; fairs 11 May, and 10 September; number of houses 312; inhabitants 750.

STRAWBERRY HILL, the celebrated villa of the late Horatio Earl of Orford, better known as Mr. Horace Walpole, is situated near the river Thames, about a mile from the village of Twickenham. This mansion is a fine specimen of Gothic, castellated, and ecclesiastical architecture, adapted to the purposes of a modern villa. It is situated on a gentle ascent, and commands pleasing views, over the lovely mixture of wood and water by which the neighbourhood is enriched. The interior is arranged in strict accordance with the ancient English character of the outside. The ceilings, the screens, the niches, and nearly every article of decoration, are on the model of beautiful specimens, contained in cathedrals, chapels, and all other costly labours of the best Gothic builders. The collection at Strawberry hill was progressively made by Lord Orford, during the affluent leisure of a long life, which was chiefly devoted to the lighter pursuits of literature and the fine arts. The most considerable part of this collection, so famous in the annals of virtu, consists in miniatures, enamels, and other portraits of remarkable persons. Every apartment in this villa is stored with curiosities. When the estate at Strawberry Hill was first purchased by Lord Orford, five acres only of ground were attached to the house. Considerable additions have since been made, and the whole is disposed with the elegant simplicity of modern landscape-gardening. The private press of Strawberry Hill; has acquired much celebrity; most of Lord Orford's own works, and several other books were here printed, under his own inspection.

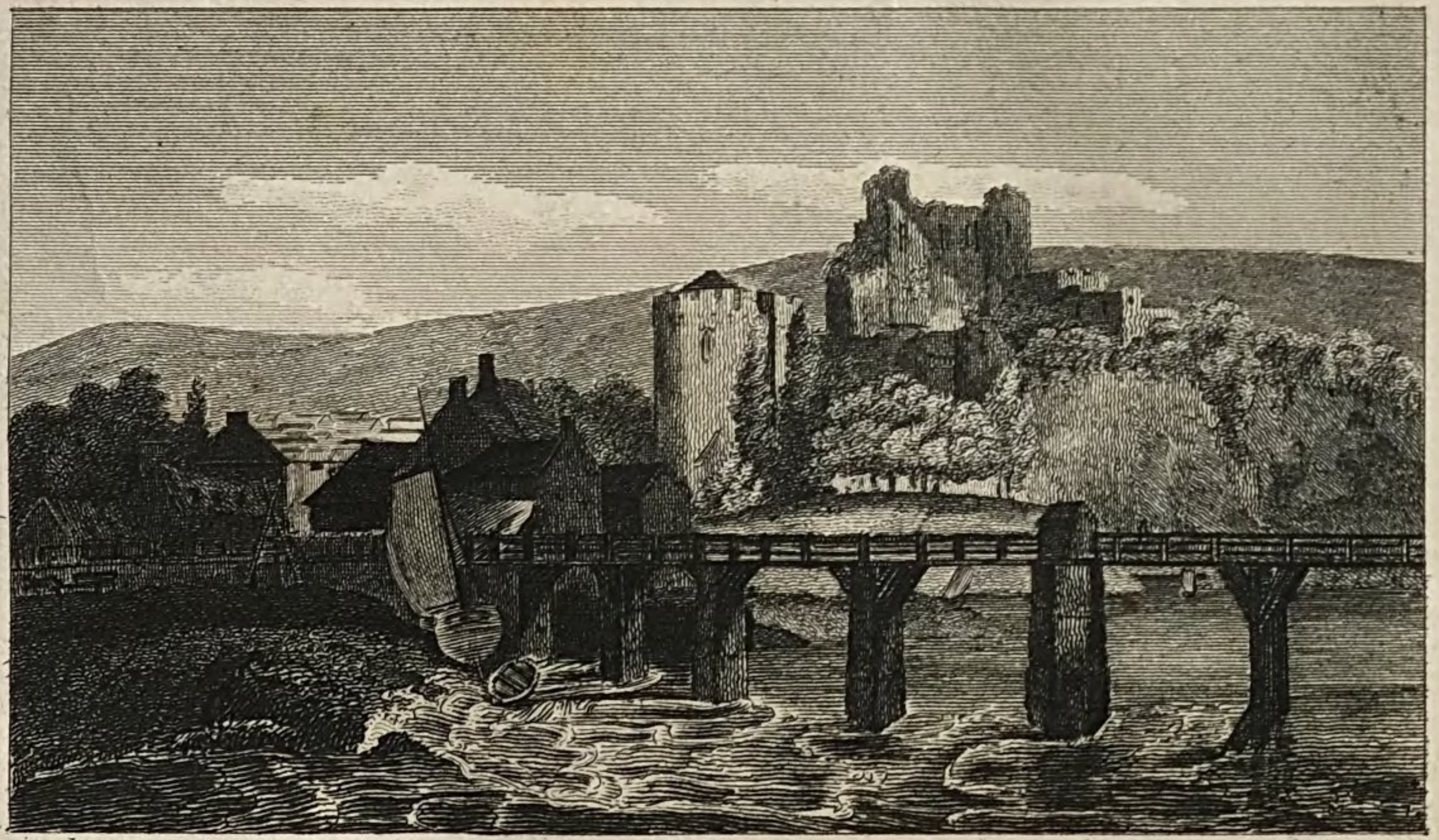
TWICKENHAM, is an extensive and populous village seated on the bank of the Thames, about 10½ miles from London. Between Richmond bridge and the village, is a public but rural walk, on the border of the river Thames, and probably no promenade of a similar extent in any part of this fertile Island, presents a display of scenery, so soft, and so highly cultivated. At a moderate distance from the river, is the seat termed Marble hill, built by King George II., for his mistress the Countess of Suffolk. The exterior is of a plain character, but is of proportions extremely pleasing. The interior contains the principal attractions of the building. The margin of the Thames, through the whole progress of the river along the more populous parts of this village, is lined with stately dwellings, whose ornamental grounds descend to the water edge; among these is one endeared to memory and to fancy, as the residence of Alexander Pope. The house was not large, but Pope bestowed on it considerable improvements, and took great delight in disposing and embellishing the grounds. The chief part of the gardens lay on the opposite side of the high road, through Twickenham, to Teddington; as a mean of communication, he worked a subterranean passage under the road, and ornamented this quiet and obscure path, by adorning the sides with curious spars and gems, and forming it into a grotto; towards the front of the house stood a far-famed weeping willow, supposed to have been planted by the hand of Pope, this willow perished and fell to the ground in the year 1801. Here Pope translated a part of the *Iliad*, and wrote the *Dunciad*, the *Essay on Man*, the *Epistles*, and numerous poems of a minor size, which but few can forget; and hence are dated the greater number of those letters, so universally admired for elegance and wit; it was here that Pope died. This villa was purchased by the Baroness Howe, in the year 1807, under the direction of that Lady, the house has been completely taken down, and a new dwelling erected at the distance of about 100 yards from the site. The grotto, with which Pope was so highly pleased, has been stripped of its most curious spars and minerals, by the zeal of those who have been desirous of procuring a

memorial of the poet. In a retired part of the grounds is an obelisk, having a fumeral urn on each side, raised by Pope to the memory of his mother; on the obelisk is this tender, and simple inscription;

Ah! Editha,
Matrum optima,
Mulierum amantissima,
Vale.

UXBRIDGE, 15 miles from London, is a considerable market-town. The main stream of the river Colne, and several branches of that river water the town, on the Buckinghamshire side. The grand junction canal also passes the town, which principally consists of one long street. The most memorable historical event connected with this place, is the unsuccessful treaty which took place between Commissioners appointed by the King, on one side, and the parliament on the other, during the civil disturbances of the 17th century.

The market, one of the most considerable in the kingdom for corn, is held on Thursday; fairs on 31 July, and 10 October; number of houses 385; inhabitants 2,111.



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CHEPSTOW

MONMOUTHSHIRE.

Length 24 miles. Breadth 20. Circumference 110. Square miles 516. Square acres 330,240. Hundreds 6. Market towns 7. Parishes 120. Houses 12,885. Persons 64,200.—Diocese of Llandaff.—Oxford Circuit.—Members to Parliament 3.—Militia-men 240.

BOUNDARIES.—This county is bounded on the south-east by the British Channel; on the west, by Glamorganshire and part of Brecknockshire; on the north, by part of Brecknock and Herefordshire; and on the east, by Gloucestershire, from which it is separated by the river Wye. The county of Monmouth, in point of fertility, picturesque scenery, and historic remains, is the most interesting district in the kingdom. A continual recurrence of hill and dale, wood and water, corn-fields and meadows, the sublime of wildly magnificent, and beauty of mild and cultivated scenery, combine to delight the eye of the beholder at every turn he makes in this diversified district. The air is remarkably mild and temperate, except upon the mountainous ridges, where it is, of course, cold and bleak; and in the hilly district the air is damper than in the vales, or more level parts of the county.

SOIL.—Monmouthshire may be divided into three districts. The first, which comprises the southern part of the county, partly consists of large tracts of moor or marsh lands. The second division takes in the eastern line of the county, and extends in depth on each side of the river Usk: the soil is of a faint red colour, and such are its natural advantages and fertility as to give the whole of this district the appearance of a garden. The third division comprises the western and most hilly part of the county. The soil upon the hills is in general of a thin peaty nature, covering strata of stone, that lie over mines of coal and iron ore. The land in the valleys and slopes of the hills is finely chequered with woods and pastures, intermingled with cultivated spots. Those parts abutting upon the ridges of the mountains are sterile, affording a scanty subsistence for the vagrant flocks.

AGRICULTURE.—The mode of cultivation in this county is considered highly productive. The land is divided into sheep-walks, mines, quarries, underwood, and coppice. A considerable quantity is in a state of waste. The land lying in commons is extensive. The size of farms in Monmouthshire is in general small, the annual rental of few exceeding 200*l*., and the greater part not 60*l*. per annum, and some still less. In most instances the proprietors grant leases for advantageous periods; 21 years is the usual term. Some estates are, however, let by tenancy at will; and a great many lands are held by copy of court roll, at a fine certain. The kinds of corn are wheat, barley, and oats; of pulse, a few peas and beans are sown; and the usual artificial grasses, as clover, rye-grass, and trefoil, are cultivated. Lime forms the principal manure, and the system of summer fallowing is yet too prevalent throughout the arable districts. The oxen of Monmouthshire are of a large useful kind, of a deep red and brindled colour, moderately short in the leg, and compact in the carcass. They generally grow to a large size, are docile, and very useful for agricultural purposes. The sheep of this county are particularly small, and partake of the properties so conspicuous in the mountainous breed of South Wales; they are slender in the bone, long in the leg, light in the carcass, the wool of a coarse and rather short staple, the flesh fine in the grain, and of a delicate flavour. The horses consist of a meagre, light, uncompact breed, not well adapted for the business of the road or labours of the field. Numbers of mules, and those the finest in the kingdom, are bred and worked in this county, and that of Brecknock; they are of a peculiarly fine race, strong in the bone, of exquisite symmetry, from 14 to 16 hands high, and are so valuable as to sell for 30*l*. or 40*l*. each.

MANUFACTURES.—Monmouthshire was not formerly ranked among the manufacturing counties, but has lately become so on account of the rich mines of iron and coals, with which it everywhere abounds. A flannel manufactory has long been established, but of very confined extent; some few coarse cloths, woollen stockings, and knit-caps, are made by the inhabitants in the mountains, and brought to the great fairs for sale. A manufactory

for japanned goods, celebrated under the name of Pontypool ware, is still carried on. The iron-works are the boast, and certainly, in every point of view, the most important objects of trading consideration in Monmouthshire. The local advantages of this county are peculiarly great, as the district abounds in iron ore, coal, lime, numerous streams of water, and every requisite proper for this branch of business. The commerce of this small county, by the advantages derived from its navigable rivers, the Wye and Usk, is very considerable.

The principal RIVERS are the Severn, Wye, Usk, Rumney, Monnow or Mynwy, and Ebwy; besides which numerous smaller rivulets and streams flow through different parts of the county. The course of the SEVERN, which washes with its estuary the south-eastern side of the county, has already been described. The WYE has its rise on the southern side of Plinlimmon, and, after having formed the boundary between the counties of Radnor and Brecknock, it passes through Herefordshire, and entering this county at Dixon, forms a line of demarcation between Monmouthshire and Gloucestershire, falling into the Severn below Chepstow. The peculiar characteristics of this beautiful river are its sinuous course, the uniformity of its breadth, and the variegated scenery of its banks.

The WYE is navigable for large vessels only to Chepstow bridge, but for barges as far as Hereford.

The USK has its source in the black mountains of Brecknockshire, and entering this county at Llangrunny, passes in a southerly direction between lofty hills, including a most delicious valley, unrivalled perhaps in beauty by any of the most celebrated spots in Swiss or Italian scenery. This river is navigable for barges up to Tredonnoc bridge.

The RUMNEY divides this county from that of Glamorgan, and falls into the Bristol Channel below the village of Rumney.

The MONNOW forms the north-eastern boundary of the county, and falls into the Wye at the town of Monmouth.

The EBWY flows through the wild valley of Ebwy, and falls into the estuary of the Usk below Newport.

Remarkable Places.

ABERGAVENNY, 145 miles from London, or 16 miles from Monmouth, was formerly fortified: some parts of the walls are entire. The castle is in a very dilapidated state, the principal remains consisting of a round and a pentagonal tower. The church of St. Mary was the chapel belonging to the ancient priory. Formerly there were two other churches in Abergavenny, but one is down and the other in a dilapidated state. The Free Grammar School was founded in the reign of Henry VIII. Abergavenny was once incorporated, a place of considerable trade, and of the first importance in the county; it is handsome and well built, consisting of several streets, and during the summer is much frequented.

The market is on Tuesday. The fairs on May 11, Trinity Tuesday, and Sept. 25. The number of houses, 560; inhabitants, 2,773.

ABERYSTWITH, 203 miles from London, is situated amidst scenes not inferior to the celebrated ones of the Swiss Alps. The church is a neat structure, in the pointed style, and remarkable for being surrounded by eleven large yew-trees, planted on the four sides of the churchyard, the smallest of which measures more than 11 feet in circumference, and the largest 24.

CAERLEON, 155 miles from London, the chief station of the Romans, in the Silurian territory, is now a small, inconsiderable town, upon the western banks of the Usk. The remains of walls and public works, pavements, altars, statues, sculptured and inscribed stones, coins, and various other antiquities, have been discovered here. The bridge in the town, the tin-works in the vicinity, and the machinery of the mill, are worthy of notice. The gardens and orchards of Caerleon, are strewed with immense quantities of cinders, which contain much iron. They are denominated Roman cinders, and, in some parts of Monmouthshire, the profit drawn from the Roman cinders has in several instances defrayed the expense of purchasing the fee-simple of the land.

The market is on Saturday, and second Monday in

every month; the fairs on 1st May, 21st July, and 20th September. Number of houses 145; inhabitants 677.

CALDECOT CASTLE. In Caldecot Level stand the magnificent ruins of Caldecot Castle. The principal entrance to the south-west consists of a grand arched gateway, flanked with massive turrets, mantled with ivy. Within-side are the remains of several apartments.

CASTLE TROGGY, according to general opinion, was erected prior to the Conquest. Its dilapidated state exhibits some traces of the pointed style, and clearly proves its erection posterior to the castle of Chepstow, which is as old as the Conquest.

CHEPSTOW, 131 miles from London, or 15 miles from Newnham, is seated partly in a deep hollow, and partly on the side of a hill, which slopes to the river Wye. Numerous ancient encampments can be traced in the vicinity. The present castle must be referred to the time of the Conquest. The remains of this immense pile (many parts of which overhang the water, the river flowing close to its walls, and under some of the arches) exhibit a Norman character, with many additions of subsequent eras. It is so constructed on the river, that in many places it appears to form part of the perpendicular cliff on which it stands. Masses of ivy, similar to those which hide the fragments of walls and towers from the view, creep down, and conceal portions of the native rocks. A priory for monks of the Benedictine order, was founded at Chepstow, soon after the Conquest. The principal remain is the parish church, which formed part of the chapel belonging to the priory. Chepstow contains no manufactories, but supplies Herefordshire and the eastern part of Monmouthshire, with the necessary imports by the Wye, and exports the native productions, which are principally timber, grain for the Bristol market, coal, grind and mill-stones, iron, oak-bark, and cider. In the neighbourhood of Chepstow are the remains of several religious houses, chapels, and monastic buildings.

The market is on Saturday; fairs, Friday in Whitsun week, Saturday before 20th June, 1st August, Friday before St. Luke's day, and last Monday in every month. Number of houses 386; inhabitants 2,580.

LLANTHONY ABBEY. Little now remains of the

ancient monastery but the ruins of its conventual church. The remains, with the grand natural features of the surrounding hills, have conspired to render this spot peculiarly attractive, and interesting to artists, and to tourists in general.

MALPAS CHURCH, one mile and a half from Newport, is an object well-deserving antiquarian and historic attention. This church, built of unhewn stone, is of an oblong shape, and consists of a nave and chancel; but has neither aisle nor steeple.

MONMOUTH, 132 miles from London, the principal town of the county, is situated on a tongue of land, formed by a confluence of the rivers Monnow and Wye, at the termination of a fine valley, which is surrounded by lofty hills. Monmouth castle was a favourite residence of John of Gaunt, and of his son Henry of Bolingbroke, afterwards King Henry IV., in whose reign it was distinguished by giving birth to the hero of Agincourt, thence denominated Henry of Monmouth. The remains of this once formidable fortress, which was constructed of red grit-stone, stand on the ridges of an eminence, by the banks of the Monnow, to the north of the town. Monmouth is a borough and corporate town, governed by a mayor, two bailiffs, and 16 common-council-men. It first sent a member to the British senate, in the 27th of Henry VIII. The right of election is in the burgesses, inhabitants; in conjunction with the burgesses, inhabitants of the towns of Newport and Usk. At present there is little trade at Monmouth; some iron and tin works in the vicinity furnish employment for a few hands, and in the season, barking occupies a number of people; but the principal support of the inhabitants arises from the navigation of the Wye, and the trade between Hereford and Bristol, and the intermediate places, and supplying the neighbouring districts with all kinds of goods. The town is extensive, and contains some good buildings, but only one principal street. The body of St. Mary's church is extremely light and well proportioned; its elegantly-tapering spire is nearly two hundred feet from the base of the building. St. Thomas's church is a small, and very ancient structure, near the foot of Monnow bridge. The zigzag and nail-head mouldings of the interior arch, between the nave and chancel,

and the northern door of the nave, form curious specimens of ancient architecture. The other public buildings consist of a free-school, almshouses, a new town-hall, and the county gaol. Many of the houses are good, but not remarkable for architecture. The rides and walks round Monmouth are particularly romantic.

The market is on Saturday; fairs on Whit Tuesday, 4th of September, and 22d of November. Number of houses 668; inhabitants 3,545.

NEWPORT, 147 miles from London, and 16 miles from Chepstow, was formerly defended by fortified walls, though at present no vestiges whatever remain. Newport is governed by a corporation consisting of a mayor, aldermen, and burgesses. This town, conjointly with Usk and Monmouth, sends one member to the British senate. The town is a narrow straggling place, consisting principally of one long street.

The market is on Monday. The fairs on Holy and Whit Thursdays, 15 August, and 6th November. The number of houses, 200. Inhabitants, 1,135.

PIERCEFIELD, near Chepstow, is a seat of much celebrity. Stretching along the irriguous banks of the Wye, from the castle at Chepstow to a lofty perpendicular rock, called the Wynd-cliff, is a walk of about three miles in length, commanding grand, diversified, and extensive prospects. The house erected on this estate is a magnificent pile of building of free-stone.

PONTYPOOL is 150 miles from London, and has long been celebrated for its manufacture of Japan ware, which of late years has rather declined. In its vicinity are several iron mines which afford employment to a great number of the inhabitants. A canal has been cut to facilitate the conveyance of goods, coals, iron, &c., to Newport.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, April 22, July 5, and October 10th.

RAGLAND, is a small village, between Monmouth and Usk, celebrated for its castle, which stands on a gentle eminence, a small distance from the village. This fortress is apparently less ancient than any in the county, the earliest style perceptible in the building not being older

than the time of Henry V., and some portions were erected in the reign of Charles I.

SCENFRETH CASTLE is about three miles from Newcastle. This strong hold is of simple construction. The style of architecture places it anterior to the Norman period; and it is probably the most ancient fortress in Monmouthshire.

TINTERN ABBEY, near Chepstow. These fine ruins belonging to the Duke of Beaufort, are justly esteemed the most beautiful and picturesque objects on the river Wye. The site was granted, 28th of Henry VIII., to Henry, second Earl of Worcester, in which family it is at present vested. A more pleasing retreat could not easily be found. The greater part of the ruin is half concealed by a number of small buildings, many of which have been constructed with the materials of the monastery. The interesting part of the ruin is the noble abbey church, the whole shell of which is entire, but the roof has fallen. It has been an elegant Gothic pile. Though the parts are beautiful, the whole is ill shaped. No ruins of the tower are left. From a spot about half a mile down the stream, the whole appears to great advantage; the grand east window presenting itself, embosomed in a dense wood, the sides being clustered with ivy, and the lower parts of the building concealed by numerous shrubs. The exterior of the building is fine, especially the façade of the western front. But the beauty of the interior must excite the admiration of the most stoical mind, and rivet the attention of the most tasteless observer.

TREDEGAR PARK, near Usk, is the spacious and magnificent seat of the ancient family of Morgan. Some of the original structure is still remaining. The present mansion, built of brick, was erected in the reign of Charles II. Here is a large collection of pictures, principally portraits. The park is well stocked with deer, is extensive, and the grounds are finely diversified.

TROY HOUSE, about a mile from Monmouth, is an ancient seat of the Herbert family. Of the ancient mansion only an old gateway is left standing: the present edifice is of more recent date, having been built by the celebrated Inigo Jones.

USK, 144 miles from London, is situated on a tongue of land formed by the confluence of the Olwy with the Usk. It is evidently a place of high antiquity. The remains of the castle stand on an abrupt eminence to the east of the river, and consist of a shell enclosing a court, the principal entrance to which is by a tower gateway. A few remains of the priory are still standing on the south-east side of the church, and in an apartment on the first floor, the frieze of the cieling is decorated with 30 emblematic devices, and emblazoned arms. Usk is a borough town, and is represented, in conjunction with Newport and Monmouth, by one member of parliament. It is governed by a bailiff or mayor, community and burgesses. The town has a weekly market on Mondays. The church, the bridge, and the prison, are the principal buildings. The town has no trade, and only a small manufactory of japan ware. The Usk abounds with fish, but particularly salmon, which are considered by epicures finer than the salmon of the Severn, the Wye, the Towy, and the Tivy. In the vicinity of Usk are several ancient encampments.

The market is on Monday. The fairs on Trinity Monday, and 18 October. The number of houses, 152. Inhabitants, 734.

NORFOLK.

Length 77 miles. Breadth 45. Circumference 210. Square miles 2,013. Square acres 1,094,400. Hundreds 32. Market-towns 32. Parishes 722. Houses 53,082. Persons 301,800.—Diocese of Norwich.—Norfolk Circuit.—Members to Parliament 12.—Militia-men 960.

BOUNDARIES.—Norfolk is a maritime county, bounded on the north and east by the German ocean; on the south, by the Waveney and Little Ouse, and on the west by the Great Ouse and Nene. The surface, except about Norwich, and on the coast, near Sherringham and Cromer, is chiefly a dead flat, and the aspect uniform. Numerous woods are partially scattered through the county. Plantations originated in Norfolk with Sir Robert Walpole, and Lord Townshend, since whose time the county has in this respect been behind no other part of the island. Great part of this county is known to have been, within the space of a century, a wild, bleak, unproductive county, compared with what it now is, environed with a great extent of sea-coast, abounding in rivers and streams, accompanied by numerous broads or meers. Norfolk is well supplied with fresh and salt-water fish. The Bure and its attendant broads, abound with various kinds, such as pike, tench, trout, perch, &c. &c. Sea-fish are of all descriptions, and in great plenty. The mackerel, which are gregarious, and migratory, appear in vast shoals, on this coast in the spring and summer. But the herring-fishery is the most important, and most profitable pursuit; vast quantities are caught, cured, pickled, or dried, and exported to distant places. When it is considered, that Norfolk is not naturally a fertile county, that its being so productive now, is chiefly owing to human improvement, that it not only furnishes sufficient support for itself, and local trades, but also half as much again as its inhabitants consume, it may justly be denominated a surprising county. To state the proportion of cultivated and uncultivated lands in so extensive a district as Norfolk, is extremely difficult. Mr. Kent gives the following calcu-

lation of the number of acres, and their present state of appropriation:

	Acres.
The space on which the towns stand	1,500
Public and private roads	16,416
Lakes and rivers	2,000
Sedgy and swampy ground	1,500
Unimproved commons	80,000
Woods and plantations	10,000
Arable land	729,600
Meadows, parks, and upland pastures	126,692
Marsh lands	63,346
Warrens and sheep walks	63,346
Total	1,094,400

Since this statement was made, the commonable lands and commons have been very much diminished. In a good corn year, when there is a free exportation, it has been said, that the four Norfolk ports export as much corn as all the rest in England.

Soil.—This county has been divided into five parts as to soil. First, the district to the north and north-east of Norwich, consists of a sandy loam. Second, the district to the south and south-east of Norwich, consists of a stiff, wet land, composed of a mixture of sand and clay, and abounding with springs. Third, the district, containing the largest part of the county, lying to the west and north-west of Norwich, consists principally of light sandy land, and is a very inferior country to the two preceding districts. The fourth district, lying south-west of Norwich, consists of a light sand, so light indeed, that it frequently drifts in the wind, and is bare of vegetation. Marsh land may be considered a fifth district by itself, consisting of ooze, formed by a deposition from the sea. In the south-west part of the county is an extensive tract of land, which cannot class with any of these divisions, being essentially different from them all. It forms part of that immense fenny district, through which passes that celebrated work, the Bedford Level. Mr. Arthur Young furnishes the following table of soils in Norfolk.

	Square miles.	Acres.
Light sand	220	140,800
Good sand	420	268,800
Marshland clay	60	38,400
Various loams	900	576,000
Rich loam	148	94,720
Peat	82	52,480

Few parts of the kingdom are so devoid of subterraneous treasures as Norfolk. No mineral or fossil substances have been found sufficient to excite a mining spirit. The substrata of the county consist of clunch chalk, in which flints are imbedded, gault, gravel, sand, silt, and peat-earth.

AGRICULTURE, in this county, is in a highly-respectable state, and when the nature of the soil, and the condition of the county about 50 years ago, is taken into a comparative account, the ability and industry for which the husbandmen of this district have long been famed, will be justly acknowledged. *Mustard*, is much cultivated between March and Wisbech. *Saffron* is grown in the south-western district, and in some parts adjacent to Cambridgeshire. *Flax* is cultivated in the vicinity of Downham, and near Outwell. *Hemp*, is also grown near Old Buckenham, Diss, Harlestone, &c. The point of husbandry, in which Norfolk is pre-eminent, and which has led to established excellence, is the management of its turnip crops. This important root, the great source of abundance to the county, has been gradually rising to its present state, for upwards of 70 years. No county has exhibited a greater variety and number of improved implements, to facilitate the operations of husbandry than Norfolk, nor evinced more readiness in applying them to practice.

MANUFACTURES of this county, except what are intended for domestic use, or home consumption, consist chiefly of woven goods. Worsted, now a small village, is remarkable for first giving name to a kind of cloth made of wool, differently dressed from what forms those denominated woollens. Crapes, camblets, Irish stuffs, tabinets, bombazeens, poplins, plain and flowered damasks, shawls, and a great variety of fancy articles, are manufactured at Norwich, and a few places in its vicinity. A consider-

able manufacture of stockings is carried on at Aylsham, and of coarse woollens at Thetford.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers of Norfolk are, the Great Ouse, the Little Ouse, the Waveney, the Bure, the Wensum, the Yare, and the Nar. The GREAT OUSE, swelled by the tributary waters of the Lark, the Cam, and the Little Ouse, enters this county to the south-west of Dounham, passes under Stow, Magdalen, and German bridges, and then joined by the Nar from the eastward, empties its waters, two miles below the harbour of Lynn Regis.

The LITTLE OUSE rises near the village of Lopham, and being joined by a small stream from Ixworth, and by the Thet, passes under Brandon bridge, and gliding into the immense level of the fens, falls into the Greater Ouse at Littleport.

The WAVENEY also rises at Lopham, passing Diss, Billingford, and Harlestone; it bends towards Bungay, in Suffolk; after flowing to Beccles, it turns to Burgh, where it is joined by the *Yare*, at the head of Breedon water.

The BURE rises near Hindolweston, and taking its course by Blickling, becomes navigable at Aylsham. After receiving some tributary streams, and flowing under Wroxham Bridge, it passes the site of St. Bennet's abbey, where it receives the Ants. Being joined by the Thone, it passes under Acle Bridge, and increased by the superfluous waters of the marshes, joins the Yare.

The WENSUM rises near West Rudham, and being joined by numerous small rivulets, it passes the city of Norwich, and receiving the Tass and the Waveney, merges into the Yare.

The YARE is formed by the junction of the Wesnum and the Waveney, at Breedon Meer.

The NAR has its source at Litcham, passes Castleacre to Narborough, thence flowing under Sechey Bridge, falls into the Great Ouse, near Lynn-Regis.

The NEN forms part of the western boundary between this county and Lincoln.

Remarkable Places.

BLICKLING HALL, about two miles from Aylsham, is an interesting ancient mansion: it was the birth-place of he unfortunate Anne Boleyn.

BRANCASTER, near Burnham. The remains of an encampment, which answers the description given of those formed by the Romans in Cæsar's Commentaries, are still visible. Near this camp was erected an immense building for malting barley, and under the name of the great malt-house, it has been known and much visited as one of the curiosities of Norfolk.

CAISTER CASTLE, near Norwich, was considered one of the oldest brick mansions in the kingdom. It appears from the description of William of Worcester, to have been a noble castellated mansion. The ruins only now exist. An embattled brick tower, 100 feet high, is still standing at the north-west corner.

CASTLE ACRE, near Swaffham, displays the remains of an immense castle, and also some large remnants of a priory. A part of the prior's apartments have been converted into a farm-house, and the remains of the priory, with its conventual church, form, perhaps the finest and most venerable ruin in the county. The parish church is a large building, and displays some ancient and curious specimens of architecture and stained glass.

CASTLE RISING is a borough of such high antiquity, that the royal records furnish no account of it. The sea is stated to have formerly flowed up to the town. A castle was erected at this place prior to the year 1176, in which Isabel, Queen of the unfortunate Monarch, Edward II., after the death of her favourite, Earl Mortimer, was confined here from the year 1330, till her death in 1358.

DEREHAM (EAST,) is a market town, in the centre of the county, 16 miles from Norwich. The church is a very handsome structure, supported by pillars of various forms, some being round, and others octangular; at the upper end stands a curious old chest, in which is deposited the ancient records of the church; it is of curious workmanship, above 400 years old, and was taken out of the ruins of Buckenham Castle, and presented to the church in 1786; the particulars of which are expressed in a tablet placed by its side; at the end of the church is the font, erected in 1468; a fine piece of antiquity, adorned with carvings in stone. Here is also a very capital organ. Cowper, the poet, was buried in this church, in 1800.

Here are likewise three newly-erected meeting-houses. In the centre of the town stands a handsome obelisk. The buildings and streets are much improved of late years.

The market is on Friday. The fairs on Thursday and Friday before Old Midsummer Day, and Thursday and Friday se'nnight before Old Michaelmas Day. The number of houses, 548. Inhabitants, 2,805.

DISS, 13 miles from Norwich, and 90 from London, is a market town, on the most southern confines of the county, on the river Waveney; the town is neat and flourishing. Besides the church, which is very large, there are two meeting-houses. The houses are generally well-built. The streets paved, wide, and clean. Near the town is a large muddy meer, abounding with eels. The principal manufactures are hempen cloth, hose, and stays.

The market is on Friday. The fairs on 9 November. The number of houses, 325. Inhabitants, 2,246.

DOWNHAM, a market-town, 11 miles from Lynn, pleasantly situated on the declivity of a hill, by the river Ouse, over which it has a stone bridge. The church is a neat building, situated on a rising ground; it has a market particularly noted for the sale of its butter. The sale of this commodity was formerly averaged at 2000 firkins per week; but it has of late fallen off considerably.

The market is on Monday and Saturday. The fairs on 8 May, and 13 November. The number of houses, 278. Inhabitants, 1,512.

ELMHAM, near East Dereham, now a village, was a city and seat of the Bishops of Norfolk, from about the year 673 to the year 1075. The few remains of the palace are now overgrown with briers and thorns.

FAKENHAM, 7½ miles from East Dereham, a market-town, standing by the river Yar, on the slope of a hill. Some salt-pits were formerly worked here, although the parish is seven miles distant from the sea. The church is a very handsome building, with a peal of eight bells. Here is a market-cross, and the market is one of the best for corn in the county. On a neighbouring hill is still kept the sheriff's open court for the whole county.

The market is on Thursday. The fairs on Ash Wed-

nesday and 11 November. The number of houses, 237. Inhabitants, 1,236.

FELBRIGG, three miles from Cromer, is ranked amongst the first situations in Norfolk. The house is partially of the time of Henry VIII. The library contains a selection of valuable books, with a fine collection of prints, &c.; and among the paintings are some by Rembrandt, Berghem, Vandervelt, and other eminent masters. Two miles from Felbrigg, in a sequestered spot, stand the dilapidated remains of Beckam Old Church, which, for size and other circumstances, are peculiarly interesting and picturesque.

HOLKHAM HOUSE, two miles from Wells, the magnificent seat, and residence of T. W. Coke, Esq., was begun in the year 1734, by the Earl of Leicester, and completed by his dowager Countess in 1760. The designs for the building were from Palladio and Inigo Jones. This noble residence is rendered superior to most other great houses in the kingdom, by its convenience and appropriate arrangement. The ceilings of many of the rooms are of curious gilt fret, and mosaic work; the venetian windows are ornamented with handsome pillars, and also profusely gilded. The marble chimney-pieces are all handsome, but three are peculiarly deserving attention, for their exquisite sculpture. The marble side-boards, agate tables, rich tapestry, silk furniture, beds, &c., are all in the same style of elegance; a vast collection of paintings by the most eminent masters, is distributed over most of the apartments throughout the house. A just and adequate delineation of the pleasure grounds and parks, with the various objects which environ and decorate this museum of taste, and seat of hospitality, would occupy a volume; especially if it contained a view of the agricultural improvements, with the public and private virtues of the patriotic proprietor of this highly-cultivated and interesting demesne.

HOUGHTON HALL, near Walsingham, is a noble free-stone structure, having two principal fronts, ornamented at each corner with a cupola. Though there are still numerous fine statues and paintings, part of those constituting the famous Houghton Gallery, have been removed to a foreign country.

INTWOOD HALL, near Norwich, is the fine old seat, at which Sir Thomas Gresham, in the year 1549, entertained John Dudley, the great Earl of Warwick, in his journey against the forces under the rebel Ket. Sir Thomas afterwards enlarged the house, which is a curious specimen of the architecture of that period.

KIMBERLY HALL, near Wymondham, is situated in an extensive and beautiful park. In the house is preserved a fine portrait of Vandyck, painted by himself, when young.

LYNN REGIS, a sea port, borough, and market town, 96½ miles from London, stands on the right bank of the Ouse, near its mouth, about eight miles from the sea. The principal church of St. Margaret, erected by the Bishop of Norwich, about the year 1100, is one of the largest parochial churches in England, and St. Nicholas chapel is reckoned the largest of the kind, supposed to have been erected about the year 1350; this, as well as St. Margaret's has a library, erected by subscription. The harbour is capable of containing 300 merchant vessels; the advantageous situation of the town gives it a considerable traffic, with all the neighbouring counties, in wine, coals, and corn, exclusive of the produce of the county. Persons pass hence over the famous washes into Lincolnshire, but accidents often occur to the boats. The market-place is very spacious, containing an area of about three acres, having a very handsome market-cross of free-stone, erected in 1710, adorned with statues. This town is governed by a mayor, aldermen, high steward, recorder, &c., and has sent two members to parliament, ever since the 23rd of Edward I., the right of election being in the freemen, who are in number about 100: the returning officer is the mayor.

The markets are on Tuesday and Saturday, the fairs 17th October, and 14th February; the number of houses 1,465; inhabitants 10,296.

NARFORD HALL, five miles from Swaffham, displays a choice collection of pictures, ancient painted earthenware, some bronzes, coins, and a fine library of books. Here is a large collection of old china, several pieces of which were painted by Raphael. Among these

are two very large cisterns, of fine form and execution, measuring three feet, by 18 inches each.

NORWICH, 109 miles from London, the capital of the county, is distinguished for its manufactures, for its memorable events, and for its numerous antiquities. Besides the cathedral, it contains 36 churches, and several meeting-houses, and has five bridges over the river, one of iron, and four of stone. The castle, a venerable pile of antiquity, has been the seat, and castle of defence, to British, Saxon, and Norman kings, and powerfnl baron chieftains. This admirable fabric was one of the few remaining models of Antonia, at Jerusalem; but by a recent change, has been bereaved of its ancient beauty, and converted into a prison. The castle precinct contains above six acres, and the summit of the hill is, 360 yards in circumference. The whole of the latter is enclosed with iron palisadoes. No place in the kingdom except Manchester, has made a more distinguished figure in the weaving trade than the city of Norwich. The staple articles of manufacture, are bombazeens, worsted damask, flowered satins, fine camblets, crapes, cottons, shawls, and some other fancy goods.

The following are the most remarkable buildings in this city. The cathedral; the architecture of this noble pile of building is chiefly Norman. The interior, is remarkably grand, the piers, columns, arches, and mouldings, are in a bold and substantial style.—Erpingham's gate faces the western end of the cathedral, and is an elegant specimen of the architecture and sculpture of the time in which it was erected.—St. Julian's Church, exhibits some specimens of Saxon architecture.—The church of St. Peter Mancroft, is a large and regular building; and is the largest church in this city except the cathedral.—The church of St. Lawrence, is distinguished by its tower, a bold square building, 112 feet in height. Over the west door are several figures sculptured in stone.—The other public buildings deserving attention, are the guild-hall, St. Andrew's hall, the tower in the hospital meadow, Surrey house, and Fastolff's palace. Among the numerous charitable institutions, are, the free grammar school, the boy's hospital, the girls hospital, the old man's hospital, Doughty's hospital, 12 charity-

schools, the Norfolk and Norwich hospital, and Bethlehem hospital.

Markets on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday; fairs on Monday, Thursday and Saturday, before and after Whit-sunday; the number of houses 8,216; inhabitants 37,354.

RAINHAM HALL, near Fakenham, contains a few paintings, amongst which is the famous picture of Belisarius, by Salvator Rosa.

SCOLE, near Diss, a small village, situated at the junction of two turnpike-roads, is noted for a remarkable house, called Scole Inn. At this inn was formerly a large round bed, capable of containing between 30 and 40 persons.

SNAREHILL LODGE, near Thetford, is a respectable modern seat, near which are 12 large barrows, known by the name of the Seven hills; and at this place, it was said, a dreadful battle was fought between King Edmund and Ingwar, the Danish general, in the year 870.

SOUTH LOPHAM, near Harling, is a small village, remarkable among the vulgar for three wonders, two of which are geological curiosities; first, a self-grown stile, which is a tree naturally formed to answer this purpose; second, the ox-foot stone, a large pebble, on which is an impression resembling that made by an ox's foot, evidently the exuvial mark of some bivalve shell, once embedded in the fossil; third, Lopham Ford, at which place the rivers Waveney and Little Ouse take their rise.

ST. BENNET'S ABBEY, at Holme, in the parish of Horning, near North Walsham. The abbey was originally so well built and fortified that William the Conqueror in vain besieged it, till a monk, upon condition of being abbot, betrayed the place. The king performed the condition, but hanged the new abbot as a traitor. Some foundations of the walls may still be traced, but only a gateway remains of this once stately building.

SWAFFHAM, 34 miles from Newmarket, and 93 from London, is a market town. The church is a handsome building; the north aisle and steeple are said to have been built by a person who had formerly been a travelling tinker, and each window of the aisle originally contained a painting of the tinker, his wife, and three

children: over this aisle is a large and lofty gallery for the church singers. On the market-hill a handsome cross was erected by George Earl of Orford; and on the west side of the hill, a subscription assembly-room has been built. Its noted butter-market was originally held at Dereham.

The market is on Saturday. The fairs May 13, July 21, and November 3. The number of houses, 460; inhabitants, 2,360.

THETFORD, 80 miles from London, is supposed to have been the seat of the East Anglian kings. It had at one period 20 churches and eight monasteries, besides other religious and charitable foundations; but of these the names only of some remain, and of others merely a few dilapidated walls. Of the 20 churches three are preserved, St. Peter's and St. Cuthbert's on the Norfolk side of the river, and St. Mary the Less in the county of Suffolk. Thetford, though a very ancient burgh, is comparatively a modern corporation, and consists of a mayor, 10 aldermen, and 20 common councilmen, a recorder, town-clerk, sword-bearer, and two serjeants at mace. The corporation sends two burgesses to parliament. This place has been honoured with the presence of many of our sovereigns, particularly Henry I. and Henry II. Queen Elizabeth occasionally resided here; and King James I. made it one of his hunting-seats. The navigation of the river has lately been repaired, and by this communication some little trade is carried on in corn and coals by way of Lynn. Near Thetford is a mineral spring. The celebrated Paine was a native of this place.

The market is on Saturday. The fairs on May 14, August 2, and September 15. Number of houses, 493; inhabitants, 2,445.

YARMOUTH is a sea-port and borough, situated on a peninsula. At the eastern extremity of the county, 22 miles from Norwich, and 124 from London: it extends more than a mile in length, and half a mile in breadth, containing four principal streets, running from north to south, and 156 narrow lanes or rows intersecting them. It is surrounded with a wall, with 10 gates and 16 towers. The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, is a stately pile,

250 feet long, and, including the aisles, 108 in breadth. Near the centre of the town is a beautiful chapel of ease, dedicated to St. George, erected in 1717. The quay, which forms a fashionable and delightful promenade to this now much frequented watering-place, is near a mile and a quarter in length, and in some parts 150 yards wide. The theatre, erected in 1778, is a neat edifice. Here is also an assembly-room and a bowling-green. The bath-house was erected in 1759; it stands on the beach. There are also very commodious bathing-machines, but the sand renders them unpleasant of access. Adjoining the north end of the bath-house a building was erected in 1788 for a tea and coffee-room. The jetty close to the bath-house is 110 paces long, and forms an agreeable walk after bathing. The market-place forms a handsome area. The situation of this town is very favourable to commerce, and there are many ships belonging to the port in the foreign trade. But the most considerable employment here is its extensive fishery, there being 60,000 barrels of herrings generally taken and cured here in the year. It has also a considerable coal-trade. The harbour is convenient, but will not admit large vessels. Among the peculiarities of this place is the use of a low narrow cart, drawn by a single horse, and well adapted for the use of conveying goods through the narrow lanes of this town; but others on the same construction, more elegantly made, are let for airing, and are called Yarmouth coaches; but on passing the sands they have more the appearance of sledges. A sessions is annually held here in the month of September. Here is also a court of admiralty, for the protection of marine property; and a court for the recovery of debts above *2l.* and under 10*l.*, from the award of which there is no appeal. The corporation consists of a mayor, 18 aldermen, a recorder, and 36 common-councilmen; and it returns two members to parliament, chosen by the burgesses at large; the returning officer is the mayor. A barge sails to Norwich twice a week, having good accommodations for passengers.

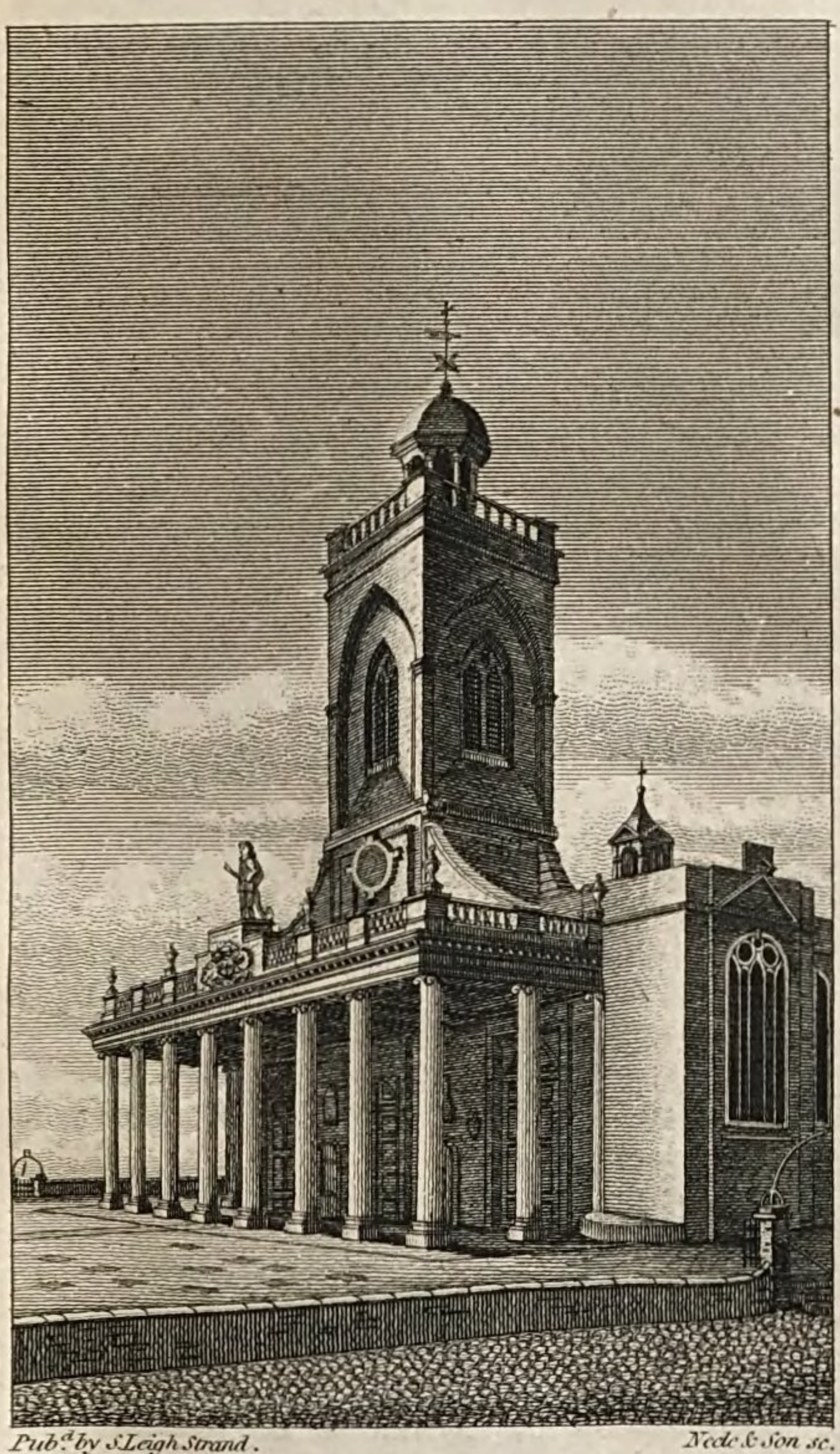
The market is on Saturday. The fairs on Thursday and Friday in Easter Week. The number of houses, 3,081; inhabitants, 14,845.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

Length 60 miles. Breadth 22. Circumference 216. Square miles 965. Square acres 617,600. Hundreds 20. Market towns, 11. Parishes 301. Houses 28,995. Persons 146,100.—Diocese of Peterborough.—Midland Circuit.—Members to Parliament 9.—Militia men 640.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE borders on more counties than any other shire in the kingdom. Towards the north, the rivers Avon and Welland divide it from Leicestershire, Rutlandshire, and Lincolnshire; on the east, it is bounded by Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire, and Bedfordshire; on the south, by Buckinghamshire, and part of Oxfordshire; and on the west, the Charwell secures it from another portion of Oxfordshire, whilst the Leam for a short distance, and then the old Roman Watling-street, separate it from Warwickshire. To the north-east, the limits, or county boundaries, are not fixed with certainty. The upper and middle parts of the county are abundantly covered with extensive woods, which are intersected with numerous vistas and lawns. There are many thousand acres of woodlands, and a large tract of rich valuable land, called the Great Peterborough Fen, in a state of commonage, containing between six and seven thousand acres of a soil equal perhaps to any in the kingdom, which is subject to the depasturage of the cattle, horses, and sheep, of 32 parishes, or townships, which comprise what is commonly called the Soke of Peterborough. The extensive tracts of woodland in the county consist either of forests, chases, or purlieu woods. Of the forests the principal is that of Rockingham. The two large forests of Whittlebury and Salcey lie towards the southern border of the county. There are two chases, Geddington and Yardly. Purlieu woods are those which are situated in the vicinity of the forests, and which at one time formed a part of them.

SOIL.—About Towcester, in the south, the country is hilly, and the soil intermixed with clay and a sort of coarse grit stone. This county is very celebrated for its



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ALL SAINTS, NORTHAMPTON.

grazing land; particularly the tract lying from Northampton to the Leicestershire border.

AGRICULTURE.—The prevailing system of husbandry is grazing; and many of the farmers are justly noted for their skilful management of land and stock. There are no very large farms within this county; it is only in the old enclosed parishes where there are farms of any considerable extent. The surface of the county is peculiarly advantageous for cultivation, having neither dreary wastes nor rugged mountains. Every hill is cultivated, or may be kept in a profitable state of pasturage. Horned cattle are here fed to an extraordinary size, and many horses of the large black breed are reared. Much of the arable land is still in open fields, and many sheep are fed on the higher grounds. Considerable quantities of woad for the dyers' use are also cultivated.

MANUFACTURES.—This county is not remarkable for trade or manufacture, except for boots and shoes, which are made in various parts for exportation. It has, however, a small trade in wool-combing and jenny-spinning.

RIVERS.—The six rivers which intersect this county originate within its boundaries; and not a single brook, however insignificant, runs into it from any other district.

The NEN, NINE, or NYNE.—The northern branch springs from the chapel-well at Naseby, and the western from Hartwell, near Staverton, and both uniting at Northampton form no inconsiderable river, which pursues its irriguous windings through a range of richly fertile meadows, and receives all along the homage of tributary streams till it reaches Peterborough, whence it runs by Wisbeach to Lynn, where it is absorbed in the German ocean.

The WELLAND takes its rise near the vicarage-house at Sibbertoft, whence it flows by Harborough, Rockingham, and Stamford, where it becomes navigable through Deeping to Crowland, and at length falls into the Fossdyke wash near Boston.

The OUSE originates at Ouse-well, in the parish of Farthingho, near Brackley, and speedily entering Buckinghamshire, revisits its parent county near Old Stratford.

The AVON, or Lesser Avon, commences its course at Avon-well, near Naseby, and flows in a westerly direction into Warwickshire.

The LEAM springing from the village of Hellidon, having named the two villages of Leamington, meets the lesser Avon into which it falls, and the junction forms the celebrated Avon, which ultimately loses itself in the Severn.

The CHARWELL rises near Charwelton. After gliding in silent obscurity by Banbury, it finishes its career at the city of Oxford, where it flows into the Thames.

CANALS.—The first artificial canal which rendered any benefit to this county was the Oxford, which passes through the parishes of Aynho, Boddington, Braunston, (where it joins the Grand Junction canal,) and Barby. A branch of the Grand Junction canal runs near Northampton, and another to Daventry. At the northern extremity of the county, the Grand Junction canal communicates with the Grand Union.

Remarkable Places.

ALTHORPE, near Northampton, is the seat of Earl Spencer. The house, a large pile of building occupying three sides of a quadrangle, was built by the Earl of Sunderland in the year 1688. The contents of this mansion are highly interesting and valuable; particularly its large and fine collection of pictures, and extensive library of curious and scarce books, for which the noble earl is particularly celebrated. The park at Althorpe is distinguished by large masses of forest trees, and great inequality of surface in the natural disposition of its grounds.

APTHORPE, near Oundle, the seat of the Earl of Westmoreland, is a handsome edifice of free-stone, consisting of a quadrangle, formed by a body and two wings, and the eastern side finished with an open cloister. The various apartments are ornamented with numerous paintings.

ARBURY HILL, in Badby parish, near Daventry, is celebrated for having on its summit a large encampment, supposed to have been a work of the Romans. The ramparts are very steep, and the foss, which nearly surrounds

the whole, is very wide and 20 feet deep; the figure is irregular, approximating to a square, and encloses an area of about ten acres.

AYNHO, six miles from Banbury, is a large respectable village situated on an eminence. Below the rock, on which the village stands, issues a powerful spring of water, called the town-well. At the east-end of the village, part of the vicinal roman-road, called Port-way, is visible. In the church are numerous monumental memorials.

BARNACK, three miles from Stamford, is a village, noted for its stone quarries; the church, at this place, contains several objects to attract attention, and afford interest to antiquaries.

BENEFIELD, four miles from Oundle, exhibits one of those geological phenomena, which puzzled philosophers to ascertain the efficient cause; about a furlong westward of the village, are nine of those cavities, here, and in the north of England, called swallows; but in the south and west, swallet-holes; through which the land-flood waters flow, and disappear.

BRACKLEY, a borough and market town, seven miles from Buckingham, and 63¼ from London, stands on the borders of Bucks, from which it is divided by the branches of the Ouse. This is one of the oldest boroughs in England, and many remains of its former greatness are still observable. It had once a very great trade in wool. It returns two members to parliament, and the corporation consists of a mayor, six aldermen, and 26 burgesses. It has two parish churches, a free-school, an hospital, aud a very handsome market-hall.

The market is on Wednesday; fairs, on the 2nd Wednesday in April, Wedtiesday after June 28th, Wednesday before 10th October, and 11th December; here are 256 houses; and 1,420 inhabitants.

BURLEIGH, near Stamford, the seat of the Cecil family, is now the property of the Marquis of Exeter. The park was formed and house built by Lord Treasurer Burleigh, in the time of Queen Elizabeth, and the whole as a building with its vast and varied collection of works of art, the extensive and finely wooded park, with a large lake, may be said to vie with the most splendid seats in the kingdom.

CAISTOR, four miles and a half from Peterborough: the church is dedicated to St. Kyneburga, and it is probable that some part of the present structure was built soon after the death of that saint; it is certainly a very curious specimen of what is commonly termed Saxon architecture. In the vicinity of Caistor, near Guuwade Ferry, are two large upright stones, provincially called Robin Hood and Little John.

CASTLE ASHBY, six miles from Northampton, the seat of the Earl of Northampton, is a large pile standing on the brow of a gentle eminence, and commanding to the north-east and west, a wide tract of enclosed grazing country; the house evidently occupies the site of a more ancient, and probably castellated edifice: but no part of the present building was erected before the reign of Elizabeth. This mansion surrounds a large quadrangular court, having a screen of two stories, on the southern side, erected from a design by Inigo Jones; in the long gallery are portraits of John Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, and Margaret his Countess, painted on board, and curious, as specimens of the art of painting, dresses, &c., in the time of Henry VI.; also a fine picture of the death of Buckingham, who was asassinated by Felton; Walpole ranks these pictures among the most ancient examples of oil-painting in England. The libraries contain many curious books, and in a large drawing-room up stairs, is an immense chimney-piece of marble dug in this county. The cellars are large, lofty, and peculiarly adapted to contain a vast stock of ales, wines, &c. They are formed like the crypts of churches, being supported on columns, and ribbed arches; a large lake in the park, and the artificial plantations were formed by Brown: the church nearly adjoins the house, and is remarkable for its neatness, an ancient curious porch, on the north side, and an old altar tomb.

COTTERSTOCK HALL, one miles and a half from Oundle, was built by Mr. Norton, a friend of Dryden; and here that poet composed his fables, and spent the two last summers of his life.

DAVENTRY, a market-town, 12 miles from Towcester and 73 from London, is a very ancient town, stand-

ing near the sources of the river Avon and Nen. It is a very narrow mean built place, dirty and badly paved; the church and steeple are tolerable pieces of modern architecture, built of soft Kingston stone. It is an incorporated borough, although it sends no members to parliament. Here formerly was a castle belonging to John of Gaunt; some remains of an ancient priory which stood near this town, and was suppressed by Cardinal Wolsey, are now inhabited by poor people; on an adjacent hill, called Danes Hill or Borough Hill, are some very strong intrenchments, occupied by King Charles's army, before the battle of Naseby. The celebrated dissenting academy, which was formerly at this place, is now established at Wymondley.

Market on Wednesday; fairs, Easter Monday, June 6th, August 3rd, October 2nd and 27th; here are 523 houses, and 2,782 inhabitants.

DEENE-THORPE PARK, near Weldon, is on the verge of Rockingham Forest; the park is large, well stocked with deer, and highly diversified; on one of the eminences, and at the extremity of the park, is situated the house; in the library is a good collection of foreign books, and many topographical, and other manuscripts, chiefly relating to this county. In the apartments, are numerous family portraits, some good pictures, and various curious pieces of tapestry.

DELAPRE ABBEY, two miles from Northampton, was a convent for nuns of the Cluniac order. A modern house of varied architecture, has been raised from the ruins, and on the site of the abbey, near the south-western corner of the park, immediately bordering the London road, is one of those monumental memorials, which King Edward I. erected to the memory of his consort, Queen Eleanor; this is called the Queen's Cross; this estate has for many years been in possession of the Bouverie family.

DRAYTON HOUSE, near Thrapston, is a noble antiquated structure, supposed to have been erected about the latter end of Henry VI's. reign; it yet retains much of its castellated features in the embattled walls, entrance gateway, and two square towers, one at each end, surmounted by turrets, and lantern cupolas. Here is a

considerable collection of pictures, and portraits, by some of the most eminent masters.

DUSTON, one mile and a half from Northampton: here stood the very ancient monastery of St. James's abbey; some remains of walls and foundations, are all the vestiges traceable at present, of this ancient and well endowed monastery.

EASTON NESTON, a village one mile and a half from Towcester, has been rendered eminent, from the splendid collection of ancient marbles, pictures, &c., which formerly decorated, and gave dignity to the mansion of the Earls of Pomfret. The statues, &c., were presented to the University of Oxford in 1755: since that time Easton-Neston, has lost much of its attractive consequence; and being now mostly deserted by the family, is not likely to be again renovated.

EDGCOTE-HOUSE, four miles from Banbury, formerly the family seat of the Chaunceys, bears marks of antiquity, though the structure has been partially modernized. In this curious building many of the doorways and windows are in the pointed style. The kitchen is peculiarly worthy of notice: the fire-place has two large chimneys of a peculiar character, with arch-work in the front. South of the village is a spacious valley, called Danes-moor, or Duns-moor, where, it is said, a sanguinary conflict took place between the Danes and an army of Saxons; a battle was also fought here between the houses of York and Lancaster. In 1642, the unfortunate monarch, Charles I., with his two sons, and a part of his army, lay at Edgcote, previous to the battle of Edgehill, and returned to the same place the day after the engagement.

FARTHINGSTONE, four miles from Brackley. In this parish, on the brow of a hill, are some ancient fortifications, denominated the Castle-Dykes, from a tradition that formerly a castle stood on the site. The works are so overgrown with wood, that it is difficult to ascertain their form and extent. The fortifications at this place are curious, and highly interesting, for they present some rather unusual features of castrametation. The Keep-mount is very lofty, with the scarp peculiarly precipitous.

FAWSLEY HOUSE, near Daventry, delightfully si-

tuated in a park, is a motley building of different ages, and incongruously combined. The kitchens and hall are particularly entitled to notice; the first, from their peculiar fire-places, and the latter for its lofty roof, bay window, and ornamental chimney-piece.

FINEDON HALL, near WELLINGBOROUGH, is a large mansion, belonging to the Dolben family.

FOTHERINGHAY, or FOTHERINGAY, three miles and a half from Oundle, connected with the lives and fates of princes, will be, to the latest period, conspicuous on the page of history. In the reign of Elizabeth, the castle of Fotheringay was reudered a scene of woe. Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots, after suffering imprisonment, was tried, condemned, and executed, in the year 1586. Notwithstanding the castle was demolished, by order of James I., the walls of the prison are down, and the hall of judgment is no more, Fotheringay will to the latest posterity transmit the deplorable event, and record in its name and site the nefarious transaction.

GEDDINGTON, three miles and a half from Kettering. In the centre of this village stands one of those elegant crosses, erected by Edward I., to the memory of his affectionate consort, Eleanor. This is the most perfect of the remaining crosses, unencumbered with modern additions, like the one near Northampton, and not so much injured by mutilation as that at Waltham.

HELMDON, four miles from Brackley. The parsonage-house is rendered noted in the annals of antiquarian literature, by an ancient inscription on a mantel-piece in one of the rooms.

HIGHAM FERRERS, a borough and market town, 15 miles from Bedford, and 64 from London, is situated on a rocky elevated ground, abounding with springs. The church is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, and is a handsome building. It is a borough by prescription, and was made a corporation by Philip and Mary, consisting of a mayor, seven aldermen, and 13 capital burgesses. It sends one member to parliament, and the right of election is in the mayor, aldermen, burgesses, and freemen, being house-keepers, and not receiving alms, in number about 150.

The market is on Saturday; the fairs, 5th February, 7th

March, 3d May, 28th June, 5th August, 10th October, and the Thursday before 17th December. Here are 125 houses, and 726 inhabitants.

HOLDENBY-HOUSE, about six miles from Northampton, appears to have been a most magnificent structure: it was erected in the reign of Elizabeth. The manor and house of Holdenby subsequently devolved to the crown, and formed first a palace, and then a prison, for the unfortunate monarch Charles I.

HUNSBOROUGH, an encampment, one mile from Northampton, near the summit of a hill which commands an extensive view over the surrounding country. The fortification is of an oval form, encompassed with a double vallum and single foss, including an area of about one acre.

KETTERING, a market town, six miles from Wellingborough, and 74½ from London, is situated on a rising ground. The houses are in general indifferently built, and many of them small and thatched. The church is a good building, with a handsome spire. Here are two or three meeting-houses, a sessions-house for the county, a well-endowed free-school, and alms-house for six widows.

The market is on Saturday; fairs, Thursday before Easter, Thursday before 10th October, Thursday before St. Thomas's Day, and on the Friday before Whitsuntide. This town contains 661 houses, and 3,251 inhabitants.

LOLHAM BRIDGES, in the parish of Maxey, near Peterborough, are considered objects of curiosity. They are of great antiquity, and were originally designed to carry the Ermine-street over the fenny grounds adjacent to the river Welland.

MIDDLETON CHENEY, three miles from Banbury. Over the door of the church-tower of this village is the statue of a saint, with various decorations in stone work; and on the south side of the church is a porch of rather singular contrivance and execution. A peculiar tenure prevails in the lordship of this parish; when estates descend in the female line, the eldest sister inherits by law. On a field in this parish, a battle was fought between the royal and parliamentarian forces, when the latter were defeated.

NASEBY, is a small village, situated 12 miles from

Northampton. It was formerly a market-town. At a short distance is Naseby-field, where the celebrated battle took place between Charles I. and General Fairfax, in which the former was completely defeated. The field exhibits no marks of the bloody contest, except a few holes, where it is presumed the dead were buried.

NORTHAMPTON, a borough, market, and county town, is situated on an eminence by the side of the river Nen, Nine, or Nyne, 15 miles from Newport Pagnell and 65¼ from London. It formerly contained seven churches within the walls, and two without; it now possesses only four. The principal, dedicated to All Saints, stands in the centre of the town, of which it forms the prominent ornament; it has a stately portico of twelve lofty Ionic columns, with a statue of Charles II., on the balustrade; the inside is fitted up with great elegance, and contains several fine monuments; on one side of the altar is a painting of Moses, and on the other that of Aaron; they are supposed to have been executed by Sir Godfrey Kneller. The church is built on the site of the chancel of the old edifice, and although a noble building, exhibits many deviations from the regular orders of architecture. The church of St. Sepulchre is supposed to have been built by the Knights Templars; it is of a circular form, with a cupola in the middle, supported by eight Tuscan pillars. St. Peter's church is an ancient building, situated at the western extremity of Northampton, and has lately been beautified; the interior has also been much improved by the removal of the dirt, whitewash, &c., which obscured its architectural beauties. St. Giles's church, at the east end of the town, contains a number of handsome monuments, and is remarkable for a fine set of bells. The independent meeting-house, near the remains of the castle, is a large and convenient structure. Amongst the monuments is that of Dr. Doddridge, who was for many years preacher at this place, and tutor of the Dissenting Academy at Northampton, which was afterwards under the care of the reverend John Horsey, the present pastor. There is also an independent meeting-house, in King's Head-lane, of which the reverend B. L. Edwards has been many years pastor. The baptist meeting-house, in College-lane, was formerly under the care of the cele-

brated John Ryland, father of the present Dr. Ryland of Bristol: his monument occupies a conspicuous situation in the place. There is also a Methodist, an Antinomian, and a Quaker's meeting-house. The town-hall is an ancient, but small building; it contains a whole length portrait of the late much lamented Spencer Perceval, M.P. The new gaol is extensive, and is arranged according to a plan of the immortal Howard. The barracks, at the northern part of the town, are handsomely built of white stone, and opposite to them is a down, on which the races are held. A neat theatre has been recently built in Gold-street, on a similar plan to the Haymarket Theatre in London. The streets are paved and regular, the houses are built of a stone resembling freestone, dug chiefly at a place called Kingston. Most of the houses are slated. The sessions house is a handsome building in the Corinthian style. Near St. Giles's church is erected a General Infirmary, capable of receiving the afflicted poor, on a very extensive scale; in the committee-room is an admirable likeness of the celebrated Dr. Kerr, painted by Philips. There are two other hospitals, St. John's and St. Thomas's. At the east end of the drapery is a fine open square, forming one of the finest market-places in Europe; the upper part called the parade is a fashionable promenade. This town was anciently fortified with strong walls, and had a castle, which was held for the parliament during the civil wars. A new bridge has been erected over the Nen, at the southern extremity of the town. Here are many charitable institutions, amongst which is a school on Dr. Bell's and another on Mr. Lancaster's plan. A general Sunday school has been established on a large scale, and is conducted with admirable regularity. Northampton has sent two members to parliament, ever since the reign of Edward I. The town is governed by a mayor, two bailiffs, four aldermen, 12 magistrates, a recorder, town clerk, common council, and 48 burgesses. The number of voters is about 900, and the returning officer is the mayor. The electors are housekeepers, paying scot and lot. Within $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile of the town, on the London road, is one of the crosses, erected by Edward I., in memory of Queen Eleanor. In 1463, a battle was fought near this town, between the partizans of the houses of York and

Lancaster, in which the latter were routed, and King Henry taken prisoner by the Earl of Warwick, and carried to London. Mr. George Baker is preparing a very extensive History of Northamptonshire, which will shortly make its appearance. The engravings will be numerous, and executed in the best style of the art.

The market is on Saturday. Fairs 5th April, 4th May, 9th June, 5th August, 26th August, 19th September, first Thursday in November, 28th November, and 19th December. Number of houses, 1,322. Inhabitants, 8,427.

OUNDLE, a market-town, is almost surrounded by the river Nen, and is 16 miles from Stamford, and 77½ from London. The houses in general are well-built, and the church is neat. There are two good stone bridges over the river; that called the north bridge is worthy of notice from the number of its arches, and the causeway leading to it. Here is a good charity school for 30 boys, and another for 12 girls.

Market on Saturday. Fairs 25th February, Whit Monday, and 21st August. Houses, 376. Inhabitants, 1,956.

OXENDON (GREAT,) 2½ miles from Market Harborough. Here is one of those phenomena, which confound philosophy upon its own principles. The belfry of the church-tower produces a remarkable polysyllabic echo.

PETERBOROUGH, a city 6½ miles from Stilton, and 78½ from London, is situated on the northern side of the river Nen. From a monastery erected about the year 660, dedicated to St. Peter, it was afterwards called Peterborough, at the dissolution of which, by Henry VIII., it was converted into a cathedral. The cathedral suffered much during the civil wars; but, a few years ago, it was thoroughly repaired. The building is a noble structure, 409 feet long, and 203 broad. Amongst other monuments is one to the memory of Catharine of Arragon, wife of Henry VIII., and another to the memory of Mary Queen of Scots, both of whom were buried here. There is only one parish-church, exclusive of the cathedral, which contains nothing remarkable. Many of the buildings are extremely neat, and the streets regular; near the cathedral is a good market-house, over which are held the assizes

and sessions for the hundred. The trade in corn and timber is very considerable, and the stocking manufacture is carried on to great extent. This is reckoned the least city, and the poorest bishoprick in England. It is governed by a mayor, recorder, six aldermen, and eight common council men. It sends two members to parliament who are chosen by the inhabitants, paying scot and lot. The air is esteemed unhealthy from its situation near the Fens. Near the city is Caerdyke, an ancient foss, made by the Romans for draining the Fens.

Market on Saturday. Fairs 10 July, and 2d and 3rd of October. Houses, 747. Inhabitants, 3,680.

RAUNDS, 3½ miles from Higham Ferrers, is a village pleasantly seated on an eminence, which abounds with springs; one of petrifying quality. Here were formerly large quarries of rag-stone. The church, on a lofty spot of ground, is a curious ancient building, and displays some interesting architectural and ornamental details.

ROCKINGHAM, a market-town, situated in the forest of Rockingham, on the river Welland, 5½ miles from Uppingham, and 83 from London. Its forest was formerly noted for its extensive iron-works, and it was reckoned one of the largest and richest in the kingdom. William the Conqueror erected a castle here, which was garrisoned for Charles I., by Sir Lewis Watson, who was created in 1644 Baron Rockingham. It is now the seat of Lord Sondes.

Market on Thursday. Fair 25th September. Houses, 49. Inhabitants, 213.

ROTHWELL, situated on the side of a rocky hill, 3½ miles from Kettering, and 78½ from London, was formerly a market town. The houses are mostly thatched. This place has a fair the week after Whitsuntide, and contains 328 houses, and 1,409 inhabitants.

STAVERTON, two miles from Daventry. In this parish, is a lofty hill, called Studbury, which has been considered the highest spot of ground in England.

STEANE, near Banbury, the vestments belonging to this church form an object of some curiosity. The furniture for the altar, pulpit, and reading desk, is rich crimson velvet, originally made for the royal chapel of St. James, and was a present to this church, by Lord Crewe,

clerk of the closet to King Charles II., who gave also the bible which had been used by that monarch.

STOWE, near Daventry. In the church is a magnificent monument, sacred to the memory of Elizabeth, fourth daughter of John Lord Latimer. This figure is certainly a fine piece of sculpture, in white alabaster, recumbent on a black slab. As an example of the taste of the age, and state of sculpture, when it was executed, this may be deemed a very interesting piece of art.

SULGRAVE, five miles from Brackley. Near the church of this village, are the remains of an encampment on the summit of an eminence, called Castle Hill, which is very lofty, and commands an extensive reach of country; it is traditionally related that nine counties can be seen from its apex. About a mile north of the village, is an artificial mount, probably a sepulchral tumulus.

THRAPSTON, a market-town, situated on the river Nen, 16½ miles from Huntingdon, and 75 from London. Many of the houses are well-built, and here is a handsome stone bridge over the river. This place carries on a considerable trade by the Nen.

The market is on Tuesday. Fairs, 1st Tuesday in May, and 5th August. Here are 121 houses, and 675 inhabitants.

TOWCESTER, a market-town, on the banks of the river Weedon, six miles from Northampton, and 60 from London. The houses are in general well-built, and there are many good inns. During the time of the Saxons, it was a place of great strength, and Edward the elder surrounded it with a wall. The Watling Street Roman road passed through this town.

The market is on Tuesday. Fairs, Shrove Tuesday, 12th May, and 29th October. Here are 434 houses, and 2,250 inhabitants.

WAKEFIELD LODGE, near Stony Stratford, the seat of the Duke of Grafton, is delightfully situated on a gentle eminence, which slopes gradually to the margin of a lake. The opposite bank swells into a noble lawn, nearly a mile in extent; the smooth features and soft tints of which are finely contrasted by the bold and abrupt aspect of a dense woodland scene, terminating the

view. The house was built by Claypole, son-in-law of Oliver Cromwell.

WARKTON, two miles from Kettering, is noted for the very sumptuous monuments of the Montague family, by Roubiliac and Vangelder, which are preserved in the chancel of the parish church.

WELLINGBOROUGH, a market-town, situated on the river Nen, seven miles from Northampton, and 68 from London. The houses are neatly built, of a kind of red stone. The church is a handsome building, and here is a charity school for 40 children. The chief trade is in corn, and large quantities of boots and shoes, together with lace, are made in the town, and its vicinity.

The market is on Wednesday. Fairs, Easter Wednesday, Whit Wednesday, and 18 October. 662 houses, and 3,325 inhabitants.

WESTON FAVEL, two miles from Northampton, at one period boasted of three mansions, all of which are dilapidated. The Rev. James Hervey, the popular author of *Meditations*, &c., who possessed this rectory, and preached here during many years to overflowing congregations, lies in the chancel under a plain stone, marked by a simple inscription; he was educated at the free grammar school, Northampton. Over the altar of the church is a representation of the Passover in needle-work, executed by Lady Holman.

WHISTON, five miles from Northampton, is entitled to particular notice for its elegant and uniform church, standing proudly elevated on the brow of a hill, embossed in trees, and completely detached from any other buildings. There are a number of interesting monuments.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

Length 64 miles. Breadth 11.—Square miles 1,809. Square acres 1,157,760. Hundreds 6. Market-towns 10. Parishes 82. Houses 29,552. Persons 177,900.—Diocese of Durham.—Northern Circuit.—Members to Parliament 8—Militia men 560.

BOUNDARIES.—*Northumberland* has the county of Durham on the south, Cumberland on the west, Scotland on the north, and the German Ocean on the east. The pit-coal of this county is the great staple of its trade. It is found in the greatest abundance, and of the best quality, where the strata which accompany it are unconnected with lime-stone. The harvests in the Valley of Hexham are the earliest; its trees have the richest foliage, and its landscape is the most diversified and interesting of any in Northumberland. Cold and pining east winds prevail in this county during the months of March, April, and frequently the greater part of May. When the western breezes set in, the progress of vegetation is rapid. The autumn of the year is the summer of Northumberland. The months of September and October are usually fine settled weather. From the middle of November to the latter end of March the winter tyrannizes severely. The aspect of the county, in respect to surface, is marked with great variety. Along the sea-coast it is nearly level. Towards the middle the surface is more diversified, and thrown into large swelling ridges, formed by the principal rivers. The western part (except a few intervening vales) is an extensive scene of open mountainous district, where the hand of cultivation is rarely to be traced. Of the mountainous districts, those around Cheviot are the most valuable, being in general fine green hills, thrown into a numberless variety of forms, enclosing and sheltering many deep, narrow, and sequestered glens. The Tyne and Tweed have been long celebrated for their salmon-fisheries; and nearly the whole of the salmon caught are sent to London; in the conveyance of which a great improvement has taken place, by packing them in pounded ice, by which means they are presented

nearly as fresh at the London market as when taken out of the river. The coasts are rich in cod, ling, turbot, soles, plaice, whitings, &c.

The Soil of this county varies from irreclaimable barrenness to great fertility in many gradations. Along the tops of the mountains, little else is to be seen but broad heaths, and cold and swampy morasses. The Cheviot-hills, though they are patched with heath, and are spongy and barren towards their heads, are upon the whole remarkably fertile. The ridges and furrows, apparent in various parts of Kidland, plainly shew that the feet and sloping sides of these finely-formed hills have, at one time, been more accustomed to cultivation than at present. From Whittingham to the Tweed the soil is of a sharp gravelly nature, and in a high state of cultivation. The undulating hills about Elderton, and in the neighbourhood of Branxton, Wark, and Carham, exhibit in harvest one of the finest cultivated prospects in Britain. From Doddington to Berwick, the county is traversed with a chain of fine moory hills. The plains about Belfont are extremely rich and beautiful; and from the whin rocks of Bamborough, along the sea-coast as far as the Wansbeck, the soil is of a strong, grateful quality. Between Shillbottle and the sea it is uncommonly productive. All that tract which lies between the Wansbeck and the Tyne lies upon substrata, retentive of moisture, and is of a cold clayey quality. The valley of Hexham is a fine sharp loam, which rises up the sloping sides of the hills, till it meets with thin soils, covered with poor grasses, and in many places with heath. Limestone abounds in various parts of the county. Lead ore is found in the mountainous districts on the south-west part of the county, and the ore of zinc is found in great abundance embedded with the spar, in most of the veins producing lead ore. Immense quantities of iron-stone lie thickly embedded in the strata of indurated clay through all the coal district. There are several conical heaps of metallic scoria at a hamlet called Ridleys, in the parish of Hallystone.

Agriculture.—In so great a diversity of soil and climate, a corresponding diversity of produce and management is to be expected. Independent of the produce

of the fold-yard, the manures chiefly in use are lime, marl, and sea-weed. As an increase both of knowledge and capital has of late years been employed in agriculture, the rental of the county has rapidly advanced. Great attention has been paid to rearing stock; in short, horned cattle, on account of the rapid growth, become favourites among the graziers. The Cheviot sheep are a very beautiful breed, which weigh, when fat, from 12 to 18 pounds a quarter. The heath sheep afford a fine flavoured mutton, and weigh from 12 to 16 pounds a quarter. The long-wooled sheep are remarkable for fattening at an early age. Since the year 1728, upwards of 134,000 acres of waste-lands have been divided and enclosed; and though there are still very large tracts of open ground in the sheep-walks, very little of it is common. Most of the moors are private property, divided by casts of heath, ridges of hills, or by streams. These boundaries of property are called marshes. The tenure is mostly freehold.

MANUFACTURES.—The coal-trade is the foundation of the commerce of the county, and the principal source of its wealth, as well as a never-failing nursery for some of the best seamen in the British navy. The quantity exported from this county may be fairly estimated at 510,000 Newcastle chaldrons, or 956,250 London chaldrons, the Newcastle chaldron being to the London chaldron in the ratio of eight to fifteen. In the year 1792, there were employed in this trade on the river Tyne 38,475 persons, and on the river Wear 26,250. In this county there are no canals. Its commerce is derived principally from the coal-trade. The principal exports are, coals, lead, lead-shot, wrought iron, grind-stones, pottery, glass, &c. It is not distinguished by any staple-manufactures. The principal are derived from, or connected with, the coal-trade and mines; as ship-building, roperies, forges, founderies, copperas, coal-tar, soda, white-lead, potteries, glass-works, &c.

RIVERS.—The SOUTH TYNE rises behind Cross-fell, and in its course receives the Nent, the Tippal, and the Allen.

The NORTH TYNE commences on the borders of Scot-

land, and receives the Reed below Bellingham. The two branches join near Nether Warden, and are afterwards augmented by the Dill or Devil's-beck, near Corbridge, by the Derwent, near Lemmington, and by several smaller streams.

The TWEED rises in Tweedale, in Scotland, at a place called Tweed's Cross; it receives the Ettrick, Leader, and Tiviot, in its progress through Scotland. The Till is the last stream of importance that enters it: and it is an estuary at Norham, about seven miles from the sea: its banks are exceedingly fertile.

The TILL rises not far from the head of Uswaie, in the Cheviot Hills, where it is called Brennich.

The BOVENT joins the GLEN near Kirknewton, and, after passing through Glendale by Copeland Castle, their united streams join the Till; this river, to the heads of its branches, but especially between the Glen and the Tweed, swarms with trout.

The COQUET rises amongst the Cheviot Hills, being joined by the Allen and Hoe. This river enters the sea near Warkworth, where there is a fishery for salmon-trout and gilse; its banks, especially from Rothbury to the sea, are well wooded, and afford a great variety of interesting landscapes. It is much frequented by anglers; and its sand-beds are celebrated for their beautiful pebble-crystals, pale cornelians, chrysolites, and agates.

The WANS, vulgarly called Wants-beck, rises near Sweethope; joined by the Font, it passes through the fine meadows of the valley of Newminster, and the old woods of Bothal. It enters the sea at Cambois.

Remarkable Places.

ALNWICK, a market town, six miles from Alnemouth, and 34 from Newcastle, is seated on the river Alne, over which is a stone bridge, built at the expense of the Duke of Northumberland. The town has a spacious square for the market, and a large town-house where the quarter sessions and county courts are held, and members of parliament elected. This place has been particularly fatal to the Kings of Scotland.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, Palm Sunday eve, May

12, last Monday in July, first Tuesday in October, and the Saturday before Christmas. Number of houses, 780; inhabitants, 5,450.

ALNWICK ABBEY, near Alnwick, seated on the northern margin of the Alne, was the first house of the Premonstratensians in England. A gateway tower of it remains, on which are armorial shields of the Percys, Crosses, and a niche richly crowned with open Gothic work.

ALNWICK CASTLE, the principal seat of his Grace the Duke of Northumberland, stands on elevated ground, on the south side of the Alne. It was a considerable fortress in 1093, in which year it withstood the memorable siege against Malcolm, King of Scots, and his son, Prince Edward, who were both killed in front of it. William III. of Scotland was taken prisoner here in 1174. King John burnt it down in 1216. After 1310 it underwent a thorough repair. The walls are flanked with 16 towers, most of which are fitted up in a style suitable to their architecture. The battlements of the towers are embellished with grotesque figures of warriors, many of them ancient, others added by the late Duke, who, on his accession to the estate, restored the whole of the edifice from a ruin to its present magnificence.

BAMBURGH CASTLE, five miles from Belford, stands upon a basalt rock, beautifully besprinkled with lichens of various rich tints. It affords matter of high gratification to see this venerable fortress gradually reclaimed from ruin, and converted into apartments for the most wise and benevolent uses. A large room is fitted up for educating the boys of the neighbourhood on Dr. Bell's system. This castle lost the greatest part of its beauty in a siege after the battle of Hexham. From that time it has suffered by time and winds, which throw up incredible quantities of sand from the sea upon its walls, and through the windows.

BELFORD, a market town, 12 miles from Alnwick, and 325 from London. The church is a handsome building, erected in 1700. The town is one of the neatest in the north of England. Near it are the ruins of an ancient chapel, surrounded by several oak-trees.

Market on Tuesday. Fairs, Tuesday before Whit-

sunday, and August 23. Number of houses, 158; inhabitants, 902.

BERWICK UPON TWEED, a town, parish, and county of itself, 30 miles north of Alnwick, on the north side of the Tweed, almost close to the sea. It is bounded on the north and east by a ditch, and on the west by high walls fortified and planted with cannon, to which the river serves as a moat. Here is a governor's house, ordnance, main-guard, &c., all built of stone. On the top of Hallydown Hill are the remains of fortifications and entrenchments, and an old pier. The houses in Berwick are well built. The town-house is handsome, and the church is neat. The town is governed by a mayor, recorder, town-clerk, and four bailiffs. It sends two members to Parliament. The English judges hold the assizes here. It exports vast quantities of corn and eggs to London and other parts; but the principal trade is in salmon, which are caught in the Tweed.

Market on Saturday. Fair in Trinity week. Houses, 960; inhabitants, 7,887.

CHIPCHASE CASTLE, eight miles from Hexham. The old tower still remains; its roof is built on corbels, and has openings through which to throw down stones or scalding water upon an enemy. The groves of the portcullis, the porter's chamber above it, and tattered fragments of Gothic paintings on the walls, are exceedingly curious. It has been thoroughly repaired and much improved, the chapel in the lawn rebuilt, the gardens made, and the grounds covered with extensive plantations. This delightful residence is surrounded with scenery of the richest and most enchanting kind; and from the neighbourhood of Wark, Nunwick, and Simonburn, has a bold and magnificent appearance. The rooms in it are fitted up in a splendid style, and ornamented with several very excellent paintings.

FELTON HALL, near Morpeth, stands in an old and extensive park, on the west side of the village. Here the barons of Northumberland did homage to Alexander, King of Scots, in 1215.

GOSFORTH HOUSE, about five miles from Newcastle. Among the paintings here are several family portraits, and a fine portrait of Rembrandt by himself.

Since the building of this mansion, the grounds around it have been circled with a broad girdle of wood, and their uniform features broken with plantations and sheets of water.

HAGGERSTONE, near Berwick. The mansion-house stands in a thick grove; the oldest part is a tower, to which two additions have been made, and in which Edward II. received the homage of Thomas Earl of Lancaster for the earldom of Lincoln, in 1311. Not far off are the ruins of an old chapel.

HALTON TOWER, 15 miles from Newcastle, a strong old seat, with turrets at its four corners. Here is preserved a sword of the Carnabys 64 inches long.

HARBOTTLE CASTLE, near Hallistones, was the retirement of Queen Margaret of Scotland, on her second marriage to the Earl of Angers: and here was born, in 1518, her daughter Margaret, afterwards married to the Earl of Lennox. It is boldly situated on the southern brink of the Coquet, and its ruins are of large extent.

HETON CASTLE, near Berwick, was a strong and beautiful structure, nearly square. At the south-west corner was the lion's court and tower; and on the north side, a vault in which 100 horses might stand. The Scottish army, in 1513, besieged it in vain. It is now quite in ruins.

HEXHAM, a parish and market town, 20 miles from Newcastle, and 286 from London. Its ancient and spacious church is highly ornamented in the inside in the Gothic taste. To the west of the church are the remains of the priory, which was a very spacious building. Here are two ancient stone towers, one used as a sessions-house, the other stands at the top of a hill towards the Tyne. The market-place is a large square, near the centre of the town, with a convenient piazza for the butchers' market, having moveable stalls. Near this town, in 1461, was fought a remarkably bloody battle between the houses of York and Lancaster. The town is not incorporated, being governed by a bailiff and the jury of the manor. It has a good charity and grammar-school.

Markets on Tuesday and Saturday. Fairs, August 5, and November 8. Number of houses, 712; inhabitants, 4,565.

KIRK HARLE, near Corbridge, is in a low situation, sheltered with tall forest trees. Near it is a stone pillar,

erected on the spot where Robert Lorraine, Esq. was slain by a band of Moss troopers, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

LAMBLEY, near Naltwhistle, was anciently a small house for Benedictine nuns. The Tyne has swept away all appearance of its ruins Between the river and the old residence of the Allgoods, is an ash-tree of ten trunks, all sprung from one stock, and each of great height, thickness, and foliage.

LANGLEY CASTLE, near Hexham, now belongs to Greenwich Hospital, and is well situated on the south side of the Tyne; it is by far the most perfect ruin of the kind in the county: it is in the form of the letter H. The stone of which this fabric is built is yet so remarkably fresh, as to exhibit in their primitive sharpness the characters of the masons.

LONGWITTON HALL, six miles from Morpeth, is an ancient building, fronting the south, and having a thick grove of wood on the north, east, and west. Below the garden, on the margin of the Wanswick, in an oak wood, are three medicinal fountains, called *Thurston Wells*.

MORPETH, a borough and market town, 15 miles from Newcastle. The church is a plain structure. Near the bridge is the new county gaol. A grammar school was founded here by Edward VI., endowed with the revenues of two dissolved chantries. An elegant town-house was also built by the Carlisle family in 1714. The market-place is conveniently situated near the centre of the town. This is a borough by prescription, and is governed by two bailiffs and seven aldermen. It has sent two members to parliament ever since the reign of Queen Mary; they are elected by the bailiff and free burgesses, the number of voters being about 200. In the year 1215, this town was burnt by the inhabitants out of revenge.

The market is on Wednesday. Fairs, Holy Thursday, and St. Magdalen's Day. Number of houses, 413; inhabitants, 2,951.

NEWCASTLE, 276 miles from London, is supposed to have anciently been contained within the parish of Gosforth; at present the churches and chapels within it, as well as the chapels of Gosforth and Cramlington, are subject to the mother church of St. Nicholas. The

steeple of the church of St. Nicholas is very lofty, and its top, in the form of an imperial crown, is a work of admirable lightness and elegance; in a room called the old library, there are several chained books, covered with dust, and in wretched condition, amongst which is the bible of Hexham abbey, beautifully illuminated, and upwards of 600 years old, also a few other manuscripts. A library in the chancel contains the books of the Rev. Dr. Tomlinson, and other benefactors; the collection is every day open to the public, and is large and valuable. St. Andrew's church has so well escaped the ravages of time and war, as to retain much of its original masonry; the chancel arch is semicircular, and ornamented with zig-zag work, in the Norman style. St. John's church is not very ancient, but its windows abound with curious specimens of painted glass. All-Saint's Church is a most magnificent edifice, of a circular form; its pews, and galleries, are all of mahogany; the portico on the south, is adorned with five Ionic columns, and the spire is lofty and elegant. The chapel of St. Anne, is an elegant structure, built in 1768. The meeting-houses are more remarkable for their number than for antiquity or beautiful architecture. Among the public buildings of Newcastle, may be enumerated, the grammar-school, the royal jubilee-school, the infirmary, a dispensary, the baths, the freeman's hospital, the keelman's hospital, the lying-in hospital, &c. Amidst the broils and insecurity of the feudal ages, many of the Northumbrian barons found it necessary to have mansions within the strong walls of Newcastle; few vestiges, however, remain at present to point out their situation or their grandeur. The Earl of Northumberland's house was in the close. Westmorland place is situate in Westgate-street, nearly opposite Collingwood-street; and, though the building upon its site has an ancient appearance, nothing of the original structure remains, except a remarkable wall, about eight feet broad, which passes the garden. Lord Scrope had a house in Pilgrim-street; the Scotch arms, near Nun-gate, is traditionally held to have been the lodging of the kings and nobility of Scotland, in times of truce with England. There was an inn, in Pilgrim-street, at which the devo-

tees, in their visits to the shrine of St. Mary, at Jesmond, are said to have lodged. A noble mansion, built in 1580, called Anderson place, is remarkable for being the head-quarters of General Levin, during the captivity of King Charles in Newcastle. That monarch is said to have entered the town guarded by 300 Scottish horsemen, those near him bare-headed. He passed through a lane of pikes and muskets from the Gateshead, to the general's quarters.

From the time of William Rufus, to the reign of King James, this town was constantly gathering an accumulation of power; its first officers were bailiffs, to whom a mayor was added in 1251; in 1400 it was constituted a county of itself. This borough sends two members to parliament. Although the castle, through repairs and alteration occasioned by sieges, changes in modes of warfare, and common decay, is robbed of all the delicacy of its infant features, it is still strongly marked with the character of Norman architecture.

The houses are variously built, of stone, brick, and timber, and several improvements have been recently made by pulling down many narrow parts. The upper or northern part of the town, occupied by the higher classes, is far more pleasant than the part next the river, and has several streets, level, spacious, and well built; this place has long been noted for its glass-works, particularly the finer sort, and several soap-works, and grand-stone manufactory. In the coal trade it is the first port in the world, and has sometimes exported to foreign parts and coastwise 600,000 chaldrons in a year. Many vessels are built here in great perfection. The mayor resides in a handsome mansion-house.

The markets are on Tuesdays and Saturdays; fairs from 12th to 22nd August, and from 29th October to the 6th November; number of houses 3,162; inhabitants 28,366.

OGLE CASTLE, near Newcastle, has been nearly demolished; the remnant of it, however, consisting of small windows, with pointed arches, sufficiently demonstrates the time of its erection. After the battle of Neville Cross, John Copeland, with eight companions, rode off with David, King of Scots, and after carrying him 25 miles,

arrived about vespers at Ogle Castle, on the river Blythe.

ROTHBURY, a market-town, situated on the river Coquet, 29 miles from Newcastle; the church font is remarkable for its curious sculpture, and near the town are the appearances of a Roman station, called Old Rothbury.

Market on Friday, with a fair on Trinity-Monday; number of houses 146; inhabitants 760.

SEATON DELAVAL, near Tynemouth, is situated upon a gentle slope. The chapel, a little venerable pile, is one of the purest and most perfect specimens of Norman architecture in the kingdom. Seaton Delaval was built by Admiral Delaval, after a design of Sir John Vanbrugh. Here is the original picture of the Duchess of Cumberland, by Reynolds.

WARKWORTH CASTLE, seven miles from Morpeth, was the favourite residence of the Earls of Northumberland; at all points of view, and especially from the south, it is a most magnificent pile of ruins; it stands on a rock, its walls guarded with towers, and of a triangular shape; it contains a chapel and a variety of spacious apartments, and is finished with a lofty watch tower, commanding an almost unbounded prospect. Half a mile above the castle, on the brink of the Coquet, is the hermitage of Warkworth. The most perfect and curious part of it consists of a chapel, sacristy, and vestibule, hewn out of a fine freestone rock, 20 feet high, and over-shadowed with shrubs and stately forest trees.

WERK, near Berwick, stands on the margin of the Tweed, and chiefly consists of a miserable cluster of thatched cottages. The castle here, so celebrated in the border annals, is completely ruined, nothing remaining of it but fragments of ashlar-work.

WOOLER, a market-town, situated on the river Till, near the Cheviot Hills, 31 miles from Morpeth, contains several streets, and is much resorted to in summer by invalids, for the benefit of goat's-milk and whey. The church stands on an eminence, and is a modern building.

Market on Thursday; fairs 4th May and 17th October; number of houses 280; inhabitants 1,679.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

Length 48 miles. Breadth 20.—Square miles 744. Square acres 495,360.—Hundreds 8.—Market-towns 9.—Parishes 207. Houses 32,462. Persons 168,400.—Diocese of York.—Midland Circuit.—Members to Parliament 8.—Militia-men 480.

BOUNDARIES.—Nottinghamshire is bounded by Yorkshire on the north; by Lincolnshire on the east; on the south, by Leicestershire; and on the west, by Derbyshire. Few estates in the county are above 12,000*l.* per annum, but the majority are much smaller, so as to produce a numerous and opulent gentry, to whom may be added a most respectable yeomanry, occupying their own lands. The climate, by all writers, even of the earliest date, has been considered as much drier than that of most of the other neighbouring counties, or indeed than the kingdom in general. This is a champaign country, having a general inequality, seldom rising into hill, but presenting a considerable variety of surface. This county contains the residences of more of the nobility and gentry than any other of its size.

SOIL.—The general division of the soil is into sand or gravel, clay, limestone and coal land: and the first of these has again been subdivided into the forest country and borders, the Trent bank districts, and the tongue of land beyond, or east of Trent, running into Lincolnshire. The Trent bank district is, in general, a mellow vegetable mould, on a bottom of sand or gravel, sometimes shewing themselves on the surface. The district east of Trent is generally a poor land; and, being subject to floods, is much incommoded by low moors. The clay district is again divided into the north and south clays; the first of these is extremely fertile, arising from a considerable mixture of sand, that renders it more friable than cold clay lands in general. The south clay district includes the Vale of Belvoir, which presents a scene of cultivation perhaps equal to any other in the kingdom;

also the Wolds, a range of high bleak hills. The lime and coal districts lie on the very western verge of the county, beginning about Shire Oaks, and continuing southward to the Trent.

AGRICULTURE.—The great diversity of soil in this county allows the agriculturist to cultivate almost every kind of grain. One species, however, peculiar to this county, called skegs, yields a crop double in quantity to any other kind of oats, but only equal in weight; the principal recommendation of this grain is, that it will grow on land useless for other purposes. Hops are much cultivated in the central part of the county round Ollerton, and in most parts of the north clay. Weld or dyers'-weed is grown partially near Scrooby, and other places of the northern district. The tenures are freehold, copyhold, and leasehold, and there is a considerable quantity of collegiate and church lands. The immediate occupants of the soil are generally tenants at will.

MANUFACTURES.—The stocking-manufactory has long been a staple, and is the oldest manufacture of this county. Cotton-mills form likewise an extensive branch of manufacture. Nottingham alone has eight of these establishments. Malting and brewing are carried on to a great extent at Nottingham, Newark, and Mansfield. Silk-mills, worked by horses, are used at Nottingham; and the manufacture of thread and British lace has long been prosecuted with considerable success. The other manufactures of any importance are those of earthenware, starch, sail-cloth, and artificial stone. The dyeing and bleaching trade has been carried on at Nottingham and Newark.

RIVERS.—The TRENT, though not the largest, runs the longest course of any river in England; it rises near Biddulph, in Staffordshire, and being augmented by other rivers, flows by Trentham to Burton in Derbyshire, where it becomes navigable. It enters Nottinghamshire near Ratcliffe-upon-Soar; thence flowing past Clifton, it winds round Nottingham towards Newark and Clifton-upon-Trent; passing Gainsborough, it reaches Heck Dyke, whence it proceeds, after a course of nearly 200 miles, to the Humber.

The ERWASH flows between this county and Derbyshire, and enters the Trent near Thrumpton.

The SOAR forms part of the boundary on the Leicestershire side.

The IDLE is formed by the following five small streams, which cross the county from E. to W.: the Mann, the Meden, the Wollen, the Worksop, and the Rainworth Water.

The LENE, and DOVER or DAREBECK, are two small streams of little importance.

CANALS.—The NOTTINGHAM CANAL commences at the river Trent, and proceeds to the Cromford canal, near Langley Bridge; it likewise joins the Trent and Mersey navigation, generally called the Trent canal.

The GRANTHAM CANAL likewise begins at the Trent, near Holme Pierpoint, and has a branch three miles long, leading to the town of Bingham.

The IDLE RIVER CANAL commences at Bawtry, and extends for about ten miles along the northern border of the county.

The CHESTERFIELD CANAL commences in Derbyshire, and, entering Nottinghamshire near Shire Oaks, joins the Trent at Stockwith.

Remarkable Places.

BINGHAM, a market town $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Nottingham, stands in the fertile Vale of Belvoir, consisting principally of two streets parallel to each other; at the extremity of one is the market-place which is extensive. The church presents the remains of a fine Gothic building.

Market on Thursday. Fair for black cattle in February, one for horses on Easter Thursday, and a statute-fair the last Thursday in October. Number of houses, 218; inhabitants, 1,082.

CLIFTON HALL, five miles from Nottingham, stands on a steep cliff, embosomed by groves of oak and elm; it commands extensive prospects of the Trent, Nottingham and the adjacent country. The house stands on a rock of gypsum or alabaster, and was formerly in the ancient style of the sixteenth century, but has been very much modernized; it contains many good paintings, chiefly portraits.

CLIPSTONE, two miles and a quarter from Ollerton, is a small village where King John often resided, when Earl of Mortein, and after his ascension to the throne. The only remains of the palace, are situated in a field near the village; they appear to have formed the hall, several of the Gothic windows being still entire.

CLIPSTONE PARK, belonging to the Duke of Portland, contains a small modern and handsome lodge; this park is nearly eight miles in circumference, and was formerly celebrated for its fine oaks, but many of these were destroyed during the civil wars.

CLUMBER PARK, two miles from Worksop, the residence of the Duke of Newcastle, is a magnificent mansion, with a noble lake and extensive plantations. The house consists of three fronts; in the centre of that facing the lake is an Ionic colonnade, which has a pleasing effect. Amongst the exquisite specimens of painting preserved here, is the famous piece by Corregio, of Sigismunda weeping over the heart of Tancred. The state dining room is a magnificent apartment, containing some of the finest productions of the pencil: the bed-rooms are furnished in the most elegant and costly style.

ELVESTON or ELSTON, four miles from Newark, is remarkable, as having been the native place of Dr. Darwin. The church contains several monuments of the Darwin family.

HARDBY is a small village, and is remarkable as having been the place where Queen Eleanor lay ill and died. Here the first cross was erected, but it is now destroyed.

KELHAM HOUSE, two miles from Newark, is delightfully situated on the banks of the Trent. It is a plain but elegant building of brick with stone corners: the lawns and grounds are not extensive, but are kept in good order; near the grounds is a remarkably curious wooden bridge.

LANGAR, four miles from Nottingham, was formerly the seat of Earl Howe; part of the old house still remains behind the modern part of the building, and though long deserted, affords some idea of ancient man-

ners. The modern front has a handsome portico and pediment, with six Ionic pillars.

MANSFIELD, 14 miles from Nottingham, is an ancient, large, but straggling town. The streets are badly paved, and in summer are very dirty, and its houses are built of a gloomy looking stone; nevertheless it is a flourishing market-town. The church is a Gothic building, dedicated to St. Peter; in the interior are many stone monuments and monumental inscriptions, and some considerable remains of painted glass. Here are four meeting-houses. The scholastic institutions consist of a free grammar school, a charity school, and four sunday schools. Here are five cotton mills, on an extensive scale, one of which has 2,400 spindles with carding and roving machinery; and here likewise more than 700 frames are employed in making silk and cotton stockings and gloves. An iron foundry carries on a large trade, and the malting and stone trades have long been in a flourishing condition. The moot-hall, in which the county meetings are often held, on account of the central situation of the town, stands in the market-place, and is the only public building. A coffee-room is established at the Swan Inn, by subscription; the theatre is small but commodious; the bowling green in Leaming-lane is supported by subscription, and the house contains a billiard and assembly-room. This town is likewise furnished with a handsome bath.

Market on Thursday; fairs, 10th July and second Thursday in October; number of houses 1,201; inhabitants 5,988.

NEWARK, 14 miles from Grantham, is a very pretty and well built town; the steeple of the church appears very light and beautiful, from the surrounding country; the market-place is spacious and handsome, and the streets are kept in a respectable condition. This town was the scene of King John's death. The castle and its precinct, though within the borough of Newark, are in the parish of Stoke; though in ruins it has an august appearance; amongst its large windows is one projecting, which forms a perfect specimen of those called *bays* or *bowers* in former times; these ruins exhibit a curious

specimen of the odd-mixture of old Norman architecture and of those which Bishop Gundulph first, introduced at Rochester Castle. The church of Newark has long ranked as the first parish church in the kingdom; it is a noble building, and its exterior is superb; the tower is light and handsome. The market place is a fine square, and the market on Wednesday, is well supplied with butcher's-meat, fish, poultry, and vegetables. The town-hall is a neat elegant stone building, three stories high, and having seven windows in front. In this edifice the corporate meetings take place, and concerts and assemblies are held; the assembly room is handsomely finished with Corinthian pillars, and a rich carved ceiling: at one end of this room the sessions are generally held, and at the other the business of the corporation is transacted. The manufactures of this town are extensive; at the south end of the town is a cotton mill, affording employment to numerous poor persons. The work-house is capacious and well aired, and the males are judiciously separated from the females. There are two hospitals or alms-houses. Newark is the last borough in England, which received a chartered right of representation, so late as the 29th of Charles II. The electors are the mayor, 12 aldermen, 12 assistants, and about 735 other persons. The immediate vicinity of Newark was much employed for military works in the civil wars. The Beacon Hill was the scene of action between the Royalists under Prince Rupert, and the parliament forces under Sir John Meldrum: it is now worthy of notice for its entensive quarries of gypsum, once praised as a manure.

Market on Wednesday; fairs, Friday before Careing Sunday, 14 May, Whit-Tuesday, 2 August, 1 November, and Monday before 11 December; number of houses 1,376; inhabitants 6,730

NEWSTEAD ABBEY, seven miles from Nottingham, is a seat belonging to the Byron family. The park has been divided into farms, and brought into a state of cultivation; the grounds are finely diversified with hill and dale, but have very little wood. Newstead-Abbey was founded as a priory of black canons, by Henry II., in 1170. In consequence of some difference between the

late lord and his son, the father of the present peer, the house and grounds have been suffered to decay. The front of the abbey-church has a noble and majestic appearance.

NOTTINGHAM, 124 miles from London, is situated in the south-west part of the county, and of Sherwood-forest; it overlooks the vale of Belvoir, the Nottinghamshire wolds, and the hills of Leicestershire. The rock on which it stands is so lofty, that the bases of the houses on its summit are much higher than the roofs of those in the narrow marsh at its foot. Within the last century Nottingham has greatly extended its limits, in consequence of the flourishing state of its manufactures. The castle is the principal object of curiosity. It is a large building, on a rustic basement, which supports an ornamented front of the Corinthian order, with a flight of steps leading to the principal range of apartments. The park attached to it contains only 130 acres, and though much neglected, is still used as a summer promenade: it has now no deer, and but few trees. In the park are the caves, vulgarly called popish, or papist holes; they are situated some distance west of the castle, fronting a cliff near the banks of the Lene, and are said to be the ruins of an ancient building, cut and framed in the rock. Nottingham has three parishes, St. Mary's, St. Peter's, and St. Nicholas, each of which has its own church; besides these the chapel of St. James is erected on part of the castle grounds. There are several meeting-houses, and a chapel for Roman Catholics. The public charities are numerous, and are on an extensive scale; the general infirmary is a spacious and elegant building, forming a splendid ornament to the town. The lunatic asylum is a short distance from the town, and is justly said to be superior in its general design and arrangement to any other establishment of the kind. Nottingham has a free-grammar school, and several other public schools, sunday schools, &c. The county hall is a commodious and handsome building, erected in 1770, near St. Mary's church. The town-hall is a large building, three stories high; on the ground floor is the town-prison, and on the first floor are the various offices for the corporation. The county prison is clean and airy, and under excellent regulations. The town and county gaol,

though commodious, is not yet as complete as it might be rendered; the town bridewell stands in St. John-street. The market-place of Nottingham is one of the most spacious in the kingdom, and is surrounded by handsome houses. The new exchange is a fine brick building, four stories in height. The trade and manufactures of this town are very extensive; a great number of the inhabitants are employed in spinning and twisting cotton and silk, working lace, weaving stockings, casting iron from the pigs brought from Colbrook-dale, dyeing and bleaching various articles, making British lace, brewing, malting, and tanning. Nottingham is famed for its capacious cellars cut out of the solid rock. The amusements of Nottingham consist chiefly in the assemblies, the theatre, the riding-school, the annual races, and the public walks. The corporation consists of a mayor, six aldermen, a recorder, two sheriffs, two coroners, two chamberlains, and a common-council of twenty-four burgesses. The mayor and corporation, freeholders of 40*s.* per annum, eldest sons of freemen by birth, younger sons of freemen, if they have served a seven years' apprenticeship in any place, and freemen's apprentices, have each a vote for members of parliament. In this town Charles I. erected his standard, when the civil wars commenced, in 1642. Gilbert Wakefield, and Henry Kirke White were natives of this place.

Market on Wednesday and Saturday; fairs, first Friday after 13th of January, 7th of May, Thursday before Easter, and 2d of October. Number of houses, 4,987; inhabitants 28,862.

OWTHORPE HALL is a venerable pile, standing in a very retired situation. It was first erected by Colonel Hutchinson, who was governor of Nottingham castle, during the war between Charles I. and the parliament. The house is large, and the apartments are neat, lofty, and convenient. The view from it is very fine, the grounds are in a neglected state.

RETFORD, seven miles from Tuxford, a cheerful and populous town, is seàted on the river Idle, and by means of this river and the Chesterfield canal, carries on a considerable trade.

RUFFORD ABBEY, two miles from Ollerton, is a large pile of building of ancient date, connected with the remains of the old monastic building; it was often the re-

sidence of King James I., and his son Charles, who came here for the purpose of hunting in Sherwood Forest. It was afterwards occupied by Sir George Saville.

SOUTHWELL is a small town, 10 miles from Nottingham, seated on a gentle eminence, embosomed in trees, and in the centre of an amphitheatre of hills, at the bases of which flows the little river Greet, celebrated for its red trout. The collegiate church is, with the exception of St. Augustine's, at Canterbury, founded in 605, the oldest building in this kingdom. The archbishop's palace retains much of its ancient grandeur; the ruins which are still extensive, exhibit Gothic windows, circular chimneys, and pointed gables of the time of Henry VIII., and being partially concealed by ivy and trees, have a very romantic appearance. Charles I. was often at Southwell, and the apartment in which he dined on the 6th May, 1646, when he came here privately and surrendered himself to the Scotch commissioners, is still in existence, and nearly in its original state. The county bridewell is used as a prison. The civil government of Southwell is divided between the clergy and laity; the prebendage being subject to one, and the burgage to the other.

Market on Saturday. Fair on Whit Monday. Number of houses, 467. Inhabitants, 2,305.

THORESBY PARK, near Worksop, the seat of Earl Manvers, is a comfortable rather than a splendid building, situated rather low, near the centre of the park, and backed with rising ground, thickly planted. It formerly belonged to the Duke of Kingston. The gardens are well laid out, and the park contains several pieces of water.

WELBECK ABBEY, near Worksop, the property and residence of the Duke of Portland, was originally the freehold of Sweyn, the Saxon, before the conquest. The house is on no regular plan, yet from some points appears large and magnificent; very little remains of the old abbey, except the cellar arches; many of the interior walls formed part of the ancient building, and the sepulchral monuments fixed in the walls are not destroyed, but only concealed by the wainscot or hangings. The parts seen are of comparatively modern erection, being commenced in 1604, although it has towers, turrets, and balustrades, giving it an air of antiquity, though by no means according with our ideas of an ancient abbey. The

apartments called new, are spacious, but little alteration has taken place since their first erection. The park is about eight miles in circumference, and contains numerous ancient and venerable oaks of extraordinary size: the most celebrated are pointed out under the following names; the Greendale Oak, the Duke's Walking Stick, the Two Porters, and the Seven Sisters. In the rein-deer park is a grove of majestic oaks, which are supposed to have existed more than six centuries.

WOLLATTON HALL, near Nottingham, stands on a knoll, and has a lofty, antique, and magnificent appearance: it appears to have been erected in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. It contains a very fine collection of pictures. The park is large, and is well stocked with deer and game.

WORKSOP, 20 miles from Nottingham, stands in the centre of what is generally termed the *Dukery*, from there being no less than four seats of dukes within a few miles. Its situation is truly delightful; there are more noblemen's seats in its vicinity than at any other place in the kingdom. The principal object of curiosity at Worksop is its abbey church; the abbey gate is in the modern style of Gothic, with a pointed roof and flat arch; on the side next the street are some windows and niches of great beauty: the whole forms a pleasing specimen of ancient architecture. Of the monastery little now remains; but the church is a fine monument of ancient ecclesiastical magnificence; its architecture was originally Saxon, but on the exterior is mixed with the Gothic; the whole, in form and size, much resembles a cathedral.

Market on Wednesday. Fairs, 20 March, 20 May, 21 June, and 3rd October.

WORKSOP MANOR, the seat of the Duke of Norfolk, stands in the middle of a park, eight miles in circumference. The mansion is justly famed for its beauty, and may be considered one of the noblest in England. The gardens are laid out in the ancient style, but display considerable taste. The park is naturally very fine, having a range of hills within its limits, bounding the view from the house on one side, and covered with a series of woods overhanging the landscape in the most romantic way. The house contains an immense number of fine pictures, many of them portraits of the Howard family.

OXFORDSHIRE.

Length 48 miles. Breadth 26. Circumference 190. Square miles 742. Square acres 474,880. Hundreds 14. Market towns 12. Parishes 214. Houses 23,317. Persons 123,200.—Diocese of Oxford.—Oxford Circuit.—Members to Parliament 9.—Militia-men 60.

BOUNDARIES.—Oxfordshire is bounded on the east by Buckinghamshire, on the west by the county of Gloucester, on the south, south-west, and south-east, its limits unite with those of Berkshire. The river Charwell separates it from Northamptonshire on the north-east, and it has the county of Warwick on the north-west. It possesses in its southern districts, alternate hills and valleys, which are productive of picturesque scenery. The Chiltern hills are partly covered with rich mantles of beech. On the north stone fences supply the place of thick-set hedges, and the eye is often fatigued by a rude and frigid monotony of scene. The rivers which flow through the county are the chief sources of its beauty. In general, the air is considered healthy and bracing. For want of umbrageous fences, the northern parts are very chill in winter, and extremely warm in summer. Although there are many yeomen endowed with patrimony, yet the greater part of this county is not vested in small proprietors; one estate produces 20,000*l.* a year, one 5,500*l.*, two 4,000*l.*, and several above 3,000*l.* each. In number, beauty, and magnificence, of public buildings, and private structures, Oxfordshire may be said with truth, to exceed any county in England. The assemblage of collegiate edifices in the city of Oxford, is a rich treasure of ancient art, the just boast of the natives, and the admiration of foreigners. The palace of Blenheim is well known to be the most sumptuous residence possessed by any subject in the kingdom. The seats constructed by the gentry are very numerous. The facility with which building materials are procured, enables the farmers, and persons in the middle classes of life, to erect commodious, substantial, and pleasant habita-



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tions. The cottages, tenanted by rustic labourers, are in general solid and comfortable.

SOIL.—Oxfordshire contains three peculiar distinctions of soil, which, according to Mr. Young, are the red land, the stonebrash and the chiltern; the red land, which consists of 79,635 acres, is found in the northern division, and far exceeds the others in fertility. The stonebrash prevails chiefly in the central division, and pervades 164,623 acres, and is a loose, dry, friable, sand or loam. There are 64,778 acres of chiltern lands, the basis of which is chalk, covered to various depths with loam, generally sound and dry. The remainder of the county can only be allotted to the term miscellaneous, and includes all sorts of soil, from loose sand to heavy clay.

AGRICULTURE in this county has recently made rapid strides in improvement, owing principally to the system of enclosure which has so much prevailed. Where the soils are so various, a uniform course of husbandry cannot be expected. Among the crops only partially cultivated, may be noticed lentils, rape, cabbages, carrots, potatoes, chicory, burnet, and rhubarb. Hemp is almost banished from the county. Flax is now only cultivated in one neighbourhood, and there it is raised on boggy land, for seed used in fattening oxen. Hops are rarely met with, and never in large quantities. The culture of artificial grasses is well understood in this county. Sainfoin is grown to a great extent, and to be found in every appropriate soil, in nearly all the districts. Lucerne is only partially cultivated, but on the stonebrash land; when regularly manured, it has been mown three times a-year, and has yielded plentifully. The Oxfordshire farmers well know the value of clover, and they rear crops productive, on an average, of one ton and a half per acre. Trefoil is considered valuable, but ray-grass, especially if without a mixture of cocks-foot, is held in little esteem. Some few individuals grant leases for 14, and even 21 years, but in general seven years is the usual term. Farms vary much in size, but in general they are not so large as in most other parts of England.

MANUFACTURES are few in this county, and not in a very flourishing condition. At Witney is a manufactory

for the weaving of blankets, which was formerly much noted. At Woodstock the manufacture of delicate articles, composed of polished steel, is cultivated to some extent, and in the same town leather is manufactured into breeches, gloves, and reticules. A coarse sort of velvet is made at Bloxham and Banbury. Lace is made in the neighbourhood of Thame, but not on an extensive scale. The town of Henley has for many centuries supplied London with large quantities of malt.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers are, the THAME and ISIS, forming one stream, and the boundary between this county and Berkshire.

The ISIS, an inconsiderable stream, rising in Buckinghamshire, joins the Thames at Dorchester.

The CHERWELL, rising in Northamptonshire, falls into the Isis at Oxford.

The EVENLODE, rising in Worcestershire, flows into the Isis about six miles above Oxford; and the WINDRUSH rising in the Cotswold hills in Gloucestershire, also joins the same river, about five miles west of Oxford.

Remarkable Places.

ADDERBURY, two miles south of Deddington. Near the green stands the ancient mansion of the Cobb family; its venerable walls approaching the last stage of decay. At a short distance from this perishing memorial of past ages formerly stood the superb mansion of the Duke of Buccleugh, an edifice reduced from a magnitude of dimensions adequate to the residence of royalty, to the limits of a commodious modern building. Within these once splendid walls resided that pitiable victim to evil example, Wilmot, earl of Rochester, a man whose daring height of impiety, and subsequent penitence, are too well known to be described in this place. The magnificent state-bed, which formed part of his furniture, has been tastefully modernized. The celebrated bard of Twickenham once slept in this bed. Much judgment has been shewn in the alterations both of the house and demesne.

BAMPTON, a market town, 10 miles from Oxford, stands on the river Isis, and is said to have been a place of some importance before the Conquest. The remains of

its ancient castle yet exist. The church is a spacious lofty edifice. It has a great trade in leather jackets, gloves, and breeches.

Market on Wednesday; fair, August 26th. Number of houses 207, inhabitants 1,003.

BANBURY, a borough and market town, 75½ miles from London, stands on the river Charwell. It was made a borough by Queen Mary. It is governed by a mayor, high-steward, recorder, six burgesses, and 30 assistants; has a town-clerk, and two sergeants at mace, and sends one member to parliament. A castle was built here in 1125, but it was entirely destroyed in the civil wars of Charles I.

Here are held annually seven fairs, and those for hiring servants are called mop-fairs. Market on Thursday; number of houses 502; inhabitants 2,755.

BICESTER, a market town, 11½ miles from Oxford, appears to have been a place of some antiquity, from the many monuments, supposed Danish, which have been found here. The town is well built, and the church is large and handsome, with a lofty tower. In it are several curious monuments. The town is noted for its excellent malt liquor, and has a charity-school for 30 boys, and a dissenting meeting-house.

The market is on Friday; fairs, August 5th, and December 13th. Number of houses 488; inhabitants 1,946.

BLENHEIM, near Oxford. The honour of Woodstock, which has so long appertained to the crown, was conferred on John Duke of Marlborough, by Queen Anne, as a testimony of royal favour, in consequence of the great services rendered to the country, by that illustrious warrior and able statesman. The usual approach to Blenheim from Woodstock, is through the triumphal arch, or portal, of the Corinthian order, constructed under the direction of Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough: the advance to the building is remarkably interesting; when the northern or grand front of the edifice is attained, the whole display is impressive, vast and august. Blenheim House was erected from the design of Sir John Vanbrugh: the general character of this front is mixed and original, the whole highly ornamented; and the centre supported by columns of the Corinthian

order. The spot on which the building is placed is beautiful by nature, and ennobled by art. The site of the palace is sufficiently elevated, to display the fabric to great effect, without detracting from its comparative magnitude. The south front of the building is a chaste elevation, and the scenery happily assimilates with the less florid character of this part of the structure. The interior of this noble pile is calculated to realize every anticipation of grandeur, created by a view of its more prominent features; a correct and refined taste is conspicuous throughout all the apartment; the rooms appropriated to family residence are on a scale equally magnificent, and are abundantly ornamented with the productions of genius. The pictures are numerous and valuable, and the library contains a great variety of rare and curious books. The princely district enclosed by walls, as a demesne-appendage to the house, comprises about 2,700 acres, the circumference is said to be upwards of 12 miles; the gardens are arranged with a magnificence of design, and correctness of taste, consonant in spirit to the palace which they are intended to adorn. The park contains a fine succession of adorned home-scenery, and opens at numberless points to extensive and captivating displays. The water of Blenheim is one of the most felicitous of the features, which produce the magnificence for which it has acquired so much fame; it covers not less than 250 acres. We are not aware that any part of the kingdom can boast of a spread of artificial water so truly interesting. Over the water is a handsome bridge, and in a building in the park is a fine collection of china. In the pleasure grounds is an excellent pheasantry. Among the ornaments of the park, is a fine column erected to commemorate the exploits of the great Duke of Marlborough, by Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough.

BRIGHTWELL, three miles from Bensington; the chief interest of this village, arises from the contiguous district termed Chalgrove-Field, in which took place the action which was fatal to the bold and popular Hampden: the battle was fought on Sunday the 18th of June. 1643.

BURFORD, a parish, and market-town, 17 miles

from Oxford, is situated on a rising ground, on the river Windrush. It has a considerable manufactory for rugs, and duffels, as well as saddles. A synod was convened here in 685, against the error of the British churches, in the observance of Easter; at Battle-edge near this town, Cuthred, King of the West Saxons, beat Ethelbald, King of the Mercians. The church is a large handsome fabrick, with a very fine spire. Although it is not a corporate town, it is governed by two bailiffs. In a house here belonging to the Lenthals, is the famous picture of Sir Thomas More's family by Holbein.

Market on Saturday; fairs, 5th July, and 25th September; number of houses 283; inhabitants 1,516.

CHIPPING-NORTON, a borough and market-town, 10 miles from Burford. The church is a noble Gothic structure, much admired for the workmanship of its windows. The town is governed by two bailiffs, and 12 burgesses. It has a free-grammar school founded by Edward VI.

Its market is on Wednesday; fairs, March 7th, May 6th, July 18th, September 4th, and November 8th, the last Friday in May, and the Wednesday before and after Midsummer; number of houses, 335; inhabitants, 1,812.

CUDDESDEN PALACE, the episcopal residence of the Bishops of Oxford, is a commodious, rather than a splendid mansion, about seven miles from Oxford, near the course of the river Thame.

DEDDINGTON, a market-town, 17 miles from Oxford, was formerly a corporation, and sent members to parliament in the reigns of Edward I., and III. It is now governed by a bailiff; the houses are tolerably well built. The church and tower are neat edifices; here is a good charity school. In the neighbourhood are two medicinal springs, one of which is highly impregnated with vitriolic salt. This place is famous for the goodness of its ale.

Market on Saturday; fairs on the 21st August, 11th October and 22nd November; number of houses, 223; inhabitants, 1,172.

DITCHLEY. This seat is five miles from the town of Woodstock, and is the property of Lord Viscount Dillon. The architect employed was Gibbs, and this

house has been considered the best of his performances. In point of internal arrangement he is entitled to considerable praise; there is an air of vivacity, warmth and comfort prevailing throughout the apartments, unusual in structures so splendid; the collection of portraits preserved in this mansion is truly valuable; the park is large, but does not possess any particular attractions.

FOREST HILL, a village about three miles east of Oxford, is rendered interesting by its connexion with the great Milton, it was here that he spent the happiest hours of his life, those of early affection, and from this village he married his first wife. At a short distance from Forest Hill is the Tower-house, a spacious modern mansion. In this neighbourhood, so frequently trodden by the greatest of English epic poets, resided for some time Mickle the translator of the Lusiad.

HENLEY UPON THAMES, a market-town, 35 miles from London, is supposed to be a place of great antiquity. Most of the houses are modern buildings, and the streets wide, paved, and well lighted; it has a handsome stone bridge; the church is an ancient spacious building, having a handsome lofty tower, said to have been erected by Cardinal Wolsey. The principal trade is in corn, flour, malt, and beech-wood, sent to the metropolis by water. It was formerly a borough, and sent members to parliament, it is now a corporate town, governed by a high steward, recorder, mayor, 10 aldermen, and 16 burgesses. It is pleasantly situated on the banks of the Thames. The market is always abundantly supplied with malt and grain, large quantities of which are sent by the Thames to London.

Market on Thursday; fairs, 7th March, Holy Thursday, 1st Thursday after Trinity Sunday, and after 21st September; number of houses, 625; inhabitants, 2,948.

HEYTHORP, the seat of Earl Shrewsbury, is about four miles south-east of Chipping Norton. The mansion is approached by a noble avenue of trees, more than a mile in length, and is a fine and attractive specimen of the decorated style; this superb mansion is well adapted for a family residence, but has never been completely furnished. The rooms are of good proportions, and tastefully disposed; the grounds are extensive and

finely adorned by wood and water. In the garden is a conservatory, so well placed and judiciously managed, that 22 peach and nectarine trees, have yielded sixty dozen of fruit on each tree; some of the peaches have weighed 14 ounces, the vines have produced 6,800 bunches in a season.

ISLIP, five miles from Oxford, is noted in history as the birth-place of Edward the Confessor, whose father had a palace near the church, not a trace of which is now remaining; it stands on the river Cherwell, and has a good market for sheep. It contains 132 houses, and 557 inhabitants.

JOYCE GROVE, near Nettlebed, was honoured with a visit from William III., but the site was probably too elevated to allow of his usual expression, when much pleased; "*This place is truly delightful, I could live here for three days.*" Queen Anne also once dined at Joyce Grove.

KIDDINGTON, one mile from Ditchley Park; the mansion, situated on a gentle rise, is pleasantly ornamented with wood and water. In the garden is a relique of some interest, the font in which it is said King Edward the Confessor was baptized at Islip.

MAPLEDURHAM, a small village on the border of the river Thames, three miles from Caversham, derives some importance from the large and venerable mansion of the Blount family, a building of the Elizabethan age, untouched by innovation: the house is seated on an extensive lawn; in front is an avenue of noble elms, more than a mile in length.

MONGEWELL, near Goring, the seat of the Bishop of Durham, is unfavourably placed for a command of scenery, but the grounds are extensive and arranged with much taste.

NUNEHAM COURTENAY, five miles from Oxford, is the seat of the Earl of Harcourt. Taste and liberality have united to adorn it, and to spread a charm over every surroundiug feature. The park contains nearly 12 hundred acres, and displays great richness of scenery. The front of the house is a handsome stone elevation. Nearly every room and corridor of the mansion contain valuable paintings. The hangings of the tapestry room are supposed to present the earliest speci-

men extant of the art of tapestry weaving in England, which was introduced by Sheldon, in the reign of Henry VIII. The gardens contain 38 acres, and were laid out (with the exception of the flower garden) by Brown. The following objects will attract the eye of the visiter. A bust of Flora, a statue of Hebe, a bust of Rousseau, the Temple of Flora, a bust of Faunus and Pan, a cinerary Urn, busts of Venus and Apollo, a cast of Cupid and Psyche, from the antique, a bust of Prior, a votive urn, busts of Locke and Cowley, and a conservatory stored with orange trees of various kinds, planted in the ground. In this garden the ornaments are numerous, but so placed as to be seen in unexpected succession. The church of Nuneham Courtenay forms a noble ornament to the pleasure grounds.

OXFORD, the county town at the confluence of the rivers Isis and Cherwell, 55 miles from London, is pleasantly seated on a gentle rising ground, in the midst of meadows, and was anciently surrounded with walls, and defended by a strong castle, which, from its ruins, appears to have been of great extent and strength. In this castle the Empress Maud was closely besieged by King Stephen; part of its remains are now converted into the county gaol and a prison for debtors. King Henry I. erected a palace here on a spot called Beaumont, on the west side of the city, the remains of which are still to be seen, and King Richard I. was born in it. The beauty of this city in magnificent buildings, is unequalled in the world. The university contains 20 colleges and five halls.

All Souls' College, was founded in 1437, by Chichele, Archbishop of Canterbury; it consists of two spacious courts. Over the doorway are two sculptured figures of Henry VI., and Archbishop Chichele. On the south side of the great court are the hall and chapel, and on the north is the library. In the hall, amongst various sculptures and paintings, is a fine statue of Judge Blackstone, by Bacon, and an excellent painting of the Finding of the Law, by Sir J. Thornhill. Over the communion table of the chapel is a fine *noli me tangere*, painted by Mengs. The library is ornamented by numerous vases, busts, &c.; amongst the latter, is one of the founder, by

Roubiliac. This college has a warden, 40 fellows, two chaplains, and six clerks, and choristers.

BALIOL COLLEGE was founded by John de Baliol, of Bernard's Castle, in 1269. The windows of the chapel are of painted glass. Amongst the plate belonging to this college is a cup given by the Man of Ross. The library and hall contain nothing remarkable. Baliol College has a master, 12 fellows, 14 scholars, and 18 exhibitioners.

BRASEN-NOSE-COLLEGE, founded by Smyth, Bishop of Lincoln, in 1509; stands on the west side of Radcliffe Square. It consists of a large and a small court. In the centre of the largest is a piece of sculpture, supposed to represent Cain and Abel. Over the door of the hall are busts of King Alfred, and John Scotus Erigena. The hall is decorated with several busts and portraits, and the library contains a fine collection of books. The society consists of a principal, 20 fellows, 32 scholars, and 15 exhibitioners.

CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE was founded in 1516, by Fox, Bishop of Winchester. It stands east of Christ Church, and consists of one extensive square, in the centre of which is a curious dial. The altar-piece of the chapel is by Rubens, and the library contains many valuable manuscripts. In this college is preserved the crosier of its founder. This society consists of a president, 20 fellows, 20 scholars, two chaplains, two clerks, and two choristers.

CHRIST CHURCH COLLEGE was founded by Cardinal Wolsey, in 1525. It consists of a cathedral, two large and two small quadrangles. The grand entrance is a magnificent Gothic building, with a beautiful tower, which contains the bell called Great Tom, at the sound of which at nine every evening the students repair to their respective colleges. The cathedral, which is the most remarkable object in this college, has several ancient monuments. The hall is adorned with several portraits, the principal of which are Cardinal Wolsey, Henry VIII., Queen Elizabeth, and Dr. Busby. In the court called Peckwater Square, is the library, under which is the Guise gallery of pictures. The theatre of anatomy con-

tains an excellent collection of anatomical preparations. This society consists, independently of the bishop and archdeacon, of a dean, eight canons, 101 students, three professors, eight chaplains, and a suitable choir.

EXETER COLLEGE was founded about the year 1315, by Stapledon, Bishop of Exeter. It consists of one quadrangle, formed by the chapel, hall, &c., but they contain nothing very remarkable. The members are a rector, 25 fellows, one scholar, who is bible clerk, and 10 exhibitioners.

HERTFORD COLLEGE originally formed part of Exeter College, but was made a separate college in 1740. It contains nothing demanding attention. This society consists of a principal, four senior and eight junior fellows, eight probationary students, 24 actual students, and four scholars.

JESUS COLLEGE was founded in 1571, by Queen Elizabeth. It consists of two squares. In the hall is a fine portrait of Charles I., by Vandyke, and several other paintings. The altar piece of the chapel is a copy of Guido's celebrated picture of Michael triumphing over Satan. At this college may be seen a bowl of silver, gilt, weighing 278 ounces, and a metal watch, given by Charles I. This society consists of a principal, eight fellows, eight scholars, exhibitioners, &c.

LINCOLN COLLEGE was founded by Flemming, Bishop of Lincoln; and consists of two quadrangles, in one of which are the hall, library, &c., and in the second court is the chapel: the ceiling is adorned with the arms of various benefactors, and the windows are of painted glass. The society cousists of a rector, 12 fellows, eight scholars, 13 exhibitioners, and a bible clerk.

MAGDALEN COLLEGE, founded by Waynfleet, Bishop of Winchester, in 1458, is situated at the eastern extremity of the town. The entrance to the college is on the western side. The first court is small, and in front of it is the ancient entrance, adorned with statues of Henry III., of St. John the Baptist, of the founder, and of Mary Magdalene: on the right is the west entrance to the chapel, and on the left the president's lodgings. The great quadrangle consists of the chapel, hall, library, &c., and in

the cloister on the south are several curious allegorical pieces of ancient sculpture. The chapel and ante-chapel display some very fine windows; the altar-piece represents the Last Judgment. The library and hall are not very remarkable. The pleasure grounds border the river Cherwell, and are very pleasant. The society consists of a president, 40 fellows, 30 demies, a divinity lecturer, four chaplains, eight clerks, and 16 choristers.

MERTON COLLEGE, founded by Merton, Bishop of Rochester, in 1264, is situated east of Corpus Christi, and consists of three courts. The chapel is a fine Gothic building, erected about the year 1424, and its windows are beautifully painted with various scriptural subjects. The altar-piece represents the Crucifixion, and is supposed to have been painted by Tintoretto. The chapel is adorned with several elegant monuments. This college has a warden, 24 fellows, and 14 postmasters, four scholars, two chaplains, and two clerks.

NEW COLLEGE was founded by Wykeham, Bishop of Winchester, in 1379. It consists of a large quadrangle, with a chapel, hall, and library. The chapel is the most splendid in the University; the organ-loft is adorned with Gothic ornaments, and over the communion table are five compartments of marble sculpture, most beautifully executed, by Westmacott. The painted windows in the choir and ante-chapel, represent the various personages mentioned in the Old and New Testament; but the most splendid is the great west window, executed by Jervais, from cartoons, by Sir Joshua Reynolds; it represents the Nativity of our Saviour, and consists of 13 figures, beneath which are seen the Cardinal and Christian Virtues. Near the altar is preserved the crosier of the founder. The hall is decorated with several portraits, and very fine painted windows. The gardens are extensive, and are enclosed by the city walls. The members of this society are a warden, 70 fellows, 10 chaplains, three clerks, and 16 choristers.

ORIEL COLLEGE was founded by Adam de Brom, in 1324. It consists of one quadrangle, and two ranges of buildings. The entrance to the hall is adorned with statues of Edward II. and III., of the Virgin Mary, and of the Infant Jesus. The library contains a curious paint-

ing of Italian poets, by Vasari. The chapel has a painted window of the presentation of Our Saviour in the Temple. This college maintains a provost, 18 fellows, and 13 exhibitioners.

PEMBROKE COLLEGE, founded in 1620, consists of two small courts. It was originally Broadgate Hall. The altar-piece of the chapel is a copy of Ruben's picture of our Saviour, after his resurrection. In the hall is a bust of Dr. Johnson, by Bacon, and a portrait of Charles I., together with other paintings. The present members are a master, 14 fellows, and 30 scholars, exhibitioners.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE, founded in 1340, by Robert Eglesfeld, consists of two courts. Its grand front is one of the principal ornaments of High Street, and in the centre of it is the gate of entrance with a statue of Queen Caroline. The chapel is adorned with painted windows, and the ceiling, representing the Ascension, is painted by Sir James Thornhill. The altar-piece is a copy, by Cranke, of Corregio's famous Night-piece. The hall is a fine room, with a roof beautifully arched, and the windows are ornamented with numerous portraits on glass; there are likewise several oil paintings. The library contains a fine collection of books, and several paintings. Queen's College has a provost, 16 fellows, and eight taberdars, 16 scholars, two chaplains, two clerks, and 40 exhibitioners, besides those on Mr. Michael's foundation.

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE, founded in 1557, by Sir Thomas White, stands near the northern entrance of the town, and consists of two quadrangles. In the first quadrangle is the hall and chapel, and in the second, the library. The hall is adorned with portraits, and the library contains a valuable collection of manuscripts, amongst which are those of Archbishop Laud. In the chapel over the communion table is a curious piece of tapestry, representing our Saviour with the Disciples, at Emmaus. The gardens attached to this college are remarkably pleasant. The members are a president, 50 fellows, two chaplains, and a choir. Thirty-seven of the fellows are chosen from Merchant Taylors' School.

TRINITY COLLEGE, founded by Sir Thomas Pope, in 1554, consists of a court and inner court, to which gardens are attached. The chapel is chaste and elegant, and

the interior is tastefully embellished. The altar-piece is a copy of West's painting of the Resurrection in needle-work. In the hall are some fine portraits. The windows of the library exhibit some curious specimens of painted glass. The members are a president, 12 fellows, and 12 scholars.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, supposed to have been the principal college founded by Alfred, stands on the south side of High Street, and consists of two courts. The chapel is adorned with painted windows, and the altar-piece is a representation of our Saviour, after Carlo Dolce, burnt in wood, and surrounded by curious carving. In the ante-chapel is the monument of Sir W. Jones, by Flaxman. The Hall contains several paintings, and in the common room is a fine bust of Alfred, and several portraits, burnt in wood, by Dr. Griffith. It has a master, 12 fellows, and 17 scholars.

WORCESTER COLLEGE, situated at the western extremity of the town, was founded in 1714, and consists of a chapel, hall, and library. The members are a provost, 21 fellows, 61 scholars, and three exhibitioners.

WADHAM COLLEGE was founded by Nicholas Wadham, esq., in 1611, and consists of one quadrangle. The east window of the chapel is of painted glass, and beneath it is a curious specimen of painting, by Isaac Fuller, representing the Lord's Supper, and the Children of Israel gathering manna, together with figures of Abraham and Melchisedec. The hall is adorned with a great number of portraits. The Royal Society originated in this college, and the first meetings were held in a room over the gateway. This society consists of a warden, 15 fellows, 16 scholars, two chaplains, and two clerks.

The following five halls are all that are now remaining:—

ST. ALBAN'S HALL, erected by Robert de Sancto Albano, a citizen of Oxford, in the reign of King John.

EDMUND HALL belonged to Oseney Abbey at the dissolution, but in 1557 devolved on the society of Queen's College.

ST. MARY'S HALL was originally the residence of the rectors of St. Mary's church, and was converted into an academical hall in 1333.

St. Mary Magdalen Hall, situated close to Magdalen College, was built in 1480 as a grammar-school; but, having received considerable additions, became a hall about the year 1518. In the refectory is a portrait of Tyndall, who was martyred in the reign of Henry VIII.

New Inn Hall was given by William of Wykeham to the Members of New College.

The university is governed by a chancellor, a high steward, a vice chancellor, and the head of a college, two proctors, a public orator, three esquire beadles, three yeomen beadles, and a verger. The building called the Schools is a magnificent quadrangle of Gothic architecture: the front is adorned with a statue of James I., and in one part of the building are the Arundelian marbles, consisting of 135 ancient statues, marbles, &c.

The Bodleian or Public Library consists of three extensive rooms, containing a larger collection of books and manuscripts than any other library in Europe, except the Vatican. The *Picture Gallery* adjoining this library occupies three large apartments, and contains portraits of all the founders of colleges, together with many very fine paintings, particularly copies of the Cartoons, by Sir James Thornhill, and a fine copy, by Julio Romano, of Raphael's School of Athens.

The Theatre was built by Sir Christopher Wren, at the expense of Archbishop Sheldon, and is capable of containing about 4,000 persons. The ceiling, representing the descent of the arts and sciences, was painted by Strentor, and the interior is likewise embellished with portraits of Archbishop Sheldon, Sir Christopher Wren, and the Duke of Ormond.

The Radcliffe Library stands in a fine square, formed by St. Mary's Church, part of All Souls' College, and the grand front of Brazen-Nose College. It was founded by Dr. Radcliffe, the physician; and the building was completed by the architect Gibbs in 1749. The dome is divided into compartments, and richly ornamented; and the interior is embellished with numerous fine busts, and two very curious Roman candlesticks of exquisite workmanship.

The Clarendon Printing-House was erected in

1711, and the expense defrayed with the profits arising from the sale of *Lord Clarendon's History of the Rebellion.* It is a massy edifice, two stories in height, and is ornamented at the top with leaden statues of the nine Muses.

The ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM was erected by Sir Christopher Wren in 1682, for the reception of the natural and artificial curiosities of Ashmole, the author of the *History of the Garter.* To these, numerous additions have since been made, consisting of curious articles from the South Sea Islands, manuscripts, coins, medals, &c.

The ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATORY is an elegant building, at the northern extremity of the town: it is upwards of 100 feet in height, and is furnished with a library, lecture-room, and excellent instruments.

The PHYSIC GARDEN, occupying about five acres opposite to Magdalen College, was first founded in 1622. The entrance gateway was designed by Inigo Jones, and is adorned with statues of Charles I. and II. A short distance from the physic-garden is the celebrated walk of Christ Church Mead.

The principal churches worthy of notice are St. Mary's, All Saints, and St. Peter's. ST. MARY'S CHURCH is a Gothic structure in the High-Street, and consists of three aisles and a spacious chancel. The front appears to have been erected in the reign of Henry VII.; the tower is square, with two buttresses at each angle, and statues in every niche: the spire is 180 feet in height. This church is attended by the chief members of the university, except on particular days, when the sermons are delivered at St. Peter's in the East, or at the Colleges.—ALL SAINTS' CHURCH likewise stands in the High-Street, and consists of a nave, chancel, and two aisles; it is a fine building of the Corinthian order; the tower is rustic, and sustains a turret surrounded by Corinthian pillars, on which rests a handsome spire. The ceiling is decorated with fretwork and painted arms.—ST. PETER'S IN THE EAST is a building of freestone, and is a curious specimen of Saxon architecture, supposed to have been originally built by St. Grimbald, the cotemporary of Alfred. It consists of a nave, two aisles, and a chancel. At the western extremity is a square tower, but the east part and chancel are the only remains of the

Saxon building. In the northern window is a curious emblem of the Trinity. The font stands in a singular representation of the Forbidden Tree, with two naked figures of Adam and Eve. The crypt beneath the chancel is supported by four ranges of Saxon pillars. In the churchyard is buried Hearne, the celebrated antiquarian. The other churches of Oxford have nothing to excite attention or gratify curiosity. The Roman Catholics have a chapel at Oxford, and there are several meeting-houses. There are two principal streets in Oxford, running from E. to W., and from N. to S.; and from these numerous smaller streets diverge. The city is very well paved, and great improvements have been made within a few years.—MAGDALEN BRIDGE, forming the eastern entrance to the town, is a handsome stone building over the Cherwell.—HIGH BRIDGE, over the Isis, consists of three substantial arches; and FOLLY BRIDGE, over the same river, is situated at the southern extremity of the town. Near the latter bridge formerly stood a lofty tower, called Friar Bacon's Study.—The TOWN AND COUNTY HALL is a noble stone building, erected in 1752, in which are various rooms, appropriated to the use of the corporation, town-clerk, &c. In one of the rooms are some fine portraits.—The RADCLIFFE INFIRMARY is a large handsome stone building, erected by the trustees of Dr. Radcliffe; the expenses are defrayed by voluntary subscriptions and donations. There are numerous other charitable institutions at Oxford; amongst which may be noticed, Boulter's and Stone's alms-houses, a school founded by Alderman Nixon, a grey-coat school, and several other schools.—The TOWN AND COUNTY GAOL is a spacious stone building, erected on the site of the castle built by William I. It has separate apartments for debtors and felons.—The CITY BRIDEWELL is a substantial building, erected in 1789. In a prison which formerly stood over the north gate were confined Cranmer, Ridley, and Latimer, previous to their being led to the stake. The door which closed the apartment in which they were confined is preserved in the New Bridewell.—The MARKET PLACE is an extensive range of buildings, erected in the High Street in 1774. The corporation of Oxford consists of a mayor, high steward, recorder, four alder-

men, eight assistants, two bailiffs, a town-clerk, two chamberlains, and 24 common-council. The city and university send each two members to parliament. In Port Meadow, at a small distance from the city annual races are held. Oxford has a noble market-place.

The markets are on Wednesday and Saturday. Fair, called St. Giles, 1st September. This city contains 1902 houses, inhabited by 12,107 persons.

ROLLRICH STONES, the most curious memorial of antiquity to be seen in this county, are three miles distant from Chipping-Norton; they are situated on an eminence which commands extensive views. This monument stands in solid grandeur, amid scenes so profound and immeasurable to the eye, that they inspire a species of melancholy feeling, even while enriched by the verdure of cultivation.

SHEFFORD, four miles from Bampton. In this place King Alfred summoned one of the first parliaments that were held in England. This curious circumstance is recorded in a manuscript in the Cottonian Library.

SHIRBOURN CASTLE, near Pirton, is nearly in the form of a parallelogram, and is encompassed by a broad and deep moat. The interior is disposed in a style of modern elegance, and contains no allusion to the external castellated character of the building, with the exception of one long room fitted up as an armoury. There are two spacious libraries, adorned with paintings and sculptures. Within the castle are warm and cold baths. The park contains about 60 acres. The flower-garden is arranged in an agreeable and chaste style. A very extensive conservatory has been built of stone and cast-iron.

STANTON HARCOURT, three miles from Eyneham: the manor has been in the possession of the Harcourt family for upwards of six centuries, and some curious fragments of a mansion constructed at a very early period are still in existence. The kitchen is on a construction of which there was only one other example in England, the kitchen formerly appertaining to the Abbey of Glastonbury; the few adjoining rooms possess no interest, and at present are inhabited by a farmer. Elizabeth, Queen of Bohemia, was entertained with much

splendour in this mansion. Pope passed part of two summers in the deserted mansion of Stanton Harcourt, while engaged in translating Homer. Gay was almost the only person who presumed to break occasionally on the great translator's retirement. On a pane of red-stained glass in one of the casements of his romantic retreat, Pope placed the following inscription: "In the year 1718, Alexander Pope finished here the fifth volume of Homer." The pane of glass is still preserved at Nuneham Courtenay as an interesting relique. In the neighbourhood of Stanton Harcourt are three large monumental stones, known by the name of the Devil's Coits.

THAME, a market town, pleasantly seated on an eminence on the banks of the Thame, ten miles from Oxford, consists of one large street, in the centre of which is a spacious market-place; the church is a good Gothic structure.

Market on Tuesday; fairs, Easter Thursday and Old Michaelmas Day. Number of houses, 435; inhabitants, 2,293.

WITNEY, a market town, situated on the river Windrush, 11½ miles from Oxford, consists of two streets; at the upper end of the principal one stands the church, a handsome and spacious structure, built in a rich style of Gothic architecture, with a fine spire. Here is an extensive free-school, having a good library. Witney has long been noted for its manufacture of blankets, which employs a number of hands.

Market-day is Thursday; fairs are Easter Thursday, Holy Thursday; July 10, Thursday before October 10, Thursday after September 8, and December 4. Number of houses, 518; inhabitants, 2,584.

WOODSTOCK, a town of high interest, about eight miles from the city of Oxford. Independent of the attraction of Blenheim, Woodstock possesses undeniable claims on the respect and curiosity of the examiner. It was here that some of the most august characters of English history resided in chivalric pomp; and here Chaucer, the father of English poetry, indulged delicious flights of imagination. OLD WOODSTOCK, of which only one venerable mansion, and a few irregular houses of the inferior order, now remain, was built in a sheltered situa-

tion on the border of the river Glyme. The present town is placed on a fine and healthy eminence. The majority of the buildings are capacious, and of an ornamental description. The rectory-house, and the contiguous mansion command exquisite views over Blenheim Park, The town-hall is a handsome stone building: beneath is a piazza, used as a market-place. The south part of the church is a fragment of the ancient foundation; the tower is of fair proportions, and charged with modest, yet sufficient, ornaments; the interior is arranged with simplicity, the pews are handsome, and there is a good organ. Woodstock has two manufactures, those of polished steel and gloves, from which it derives considerable benefit; very neat leather reticules are also made here. The government is vested in five aldermen, (one of whom is annually chosen mayor,) a high steward, a recorder, two chamberlains, and a common clerk, with fifteen capital burgesses. Two members to parliament are chosen by the mayor and commonalty. King Edgar, who began his reign in 866, is thought to have held a parliament or council at Woodstock: and his illustrious brother, the great Alfred, here translated Boethius de Consolatione Philosophiæ. Rous asserts that the park of Woodstock was the first that was formed in England; and Dugdale was of the same opinion. Henry I. admired this spot, and surrounded the park with a stone wall. Henry II. frequently resided at Woodstock, and here passed many hours of romantic revelry. All are familiar with the names of Henry and Rosamond.

Market on Tuesday; and fairs the second Tuesday after February 2, April 5, Whit-Tuesday, August 2, October 2, Tuesday after November 2, and December 1 and 17. Number of houses, 203; inhabitants, 1,322.

WROXTON, near Banbury. The only remains of the original priory are an arch, and a small portion of the passages communicating with offices in the lower division of the building. The greater part of the structure was erected in 1618. An elegant library has recently been erected. The mansion is enriched by many ancient portraits of the families of Pope and North. The gardens and pleasure-grounds are particularly interesting.

RUTLANDSHIRE.

Length 15 miles. Breadth 11.—Circumference 40.—Square miles 200. Square acres 128,000. Hundreds 5. Market towns 2. Parishes 52. Houses 4,417. Persons 17,000.—Diocese of Peterboro'—Midland Circuit—Members to Parliament 2—Militia-men 130.

BOUNDARIES.—Rutlandshire is bounded on the north and east by Lincolnshire, on the south by Northamptonshire, and on the west by Leicestershire, and is the smallest county in England. The climate is mild, healthy and pleasant, and the face of the country generally very beautiful, particularly where it is well timbered, and diversified by small and gently rising hills, intersected with valleys. The woods of this county are thought to have been formerly much more extensive; the forest of Leafield once occupied nearly the whole of Oakham Hundred, and Beaumont Chase, which formed part of it, extended over a considerable part of Martinsley Hundred. Rutlandshire is well supplied with water for agricultural purposes, principally by springs and ponds, and the towns and villages not situated on the Guash or Welland are furnished with other small rivulets or brooks.

SOIL.—Chiefly consists of red land, good and poor clay, hazel earth, white stony land, black clay and gravelly clay. The east and south-east parts of the county are a shallow staple, upon lime-stone rock, with a slight mixture of cold woodland, and a clay soil; the other parts consist of a strong loam, excepting the Vale of Catmose, which is composed of red loam, good clay, and a mixture of both.

AGRICULTURE.—The modern system is generally adapted in this county, from the circumstance of its varying so much in its different kinds of soils, at small distances from each other; and thus rendering each soil more productive, than if only one kind were found in each lordship. With these advantages the produce is considerable; the barley particularly, is of a superior quality. The modes of agriculture vary considerably, not only on the different soils, but on the open and en-

closed lands. The tenures are freehold, leasehold and copyhold, but chiefly freehold; the farms vary in size from 15 to 640 acres; but the latter are few in number; the cottagers have sufficient land to enable them to keep one or two cows, and employ their leisure hours. The generality of the farm-houses are very comfortable, and superior to those of many other counties.

MANUFACTURES.—There are none of any importance in this county, which is attributed solely to the want of water and fuel, and not to any deficiency of inclination, spirit or capital.

RIVERS.—The principal are the Guash and the Welland.

The GUASH, contracted to Wash, crosses the county from west to east, and divides it into two nearly equal parts.

The WELLAND forms the boundary of this county from Northamptonshire; it rises in Leicestershire, and first touches Rutlandshire, near Caldecot; then flowing by Stamford, in Lincolnshire, traverses the fens, and falls into the Fossdyke; its banks afford great amusement to those who are fond of angling.

The CHATER is a small stream crossing the county, a few miles south of the Guash.

The LITTLE EYE is another small stream, which separates Leicestershire, from the south-west of Rutland, and is often liable to floods.

Remarkable Places.

AYSTON, one mile from Uppingham, is a small village, with a neat Gothic church; in the church-yard are some ancient monumental remains; the principal of which are two figures very much defaced, and cut out of one stone; one is in armour, and the other has a cross on the breast.

BURLEY ON THE HILL, two miles and a quarter from Oakham, the principal seat in this county, is certainly one of the finest in the kingdom. It is the residence of the Earl of Winchelsea; the park consists of upwards of 1,000 acres, covered with fine oaks, elms, beech, and forest trees; the lawns and grounds are extensive, and contain a curious grotto, and other deco-

rations; the house presents a centre of fine elevation, with an extensive colonnade on each side, connecting it with the offices; a long range of handsome iron railing forms the separation between the court and the road. The architecture is of the Doric order, but not much ornamented; the east and west fronts may be termed plain; on the southern front is a magnificent terrace, commanding a fine view of the gardens, grounds and adjacent country. This superb mansion is now in perfect preservation; the library which formed part of the old mansion, contains a very excellent collection of books, particularly respecting Natural History and Anatomy. The prospects from the saloon display the gardens and grounds to great advantage, but the best point for viewing them, is the roof of the house. The whole building is fitted up in the most elegant manner; the bed-rooms are numerous, and the state apartments though magnificent are comfortable. The adjacent church is a neat building surrounded by trees.

EXTON, six miles from Oakham, is only remarkable for its church, and the once elegant mansion of the late Earl of Gainsborough. *Exton-hall* is an ancient edifice, in the style of the Elizabethan age. In 1810 a considerable portion of this building was destroyed by fire. The gardens, though celebrated, are quite in the antique style; the park, and other grounds, are extensive, the deer park alone consisting of 1510 acres. The grounds are planted with fine timber trees, and ornamented with a cascade, and other pieces of water.

KETTON, four miles from Stamford, is a small, but ancient village. The church is of Saxon origin; when rebuilt, it was erected in the form of a cathedral, and rivalled in beauty, though not in size, the mother-church of Lincoln. This church is remarkable for its tower and spire: the tower is rich in ornament, and light in execution; the spire likewise is richly ornamented, and its appearance rendered light and elegant, by twelve windows; it is of an octangular form, and 180 feet high; the four principal corners are adorned with four images, and the whole are ribbed.

LYNDEN HALL, five miles from Stamford, is an ancient edifice, in the style of the early part of the 17th cen-

tury; the interior is fitted up with a greater regard to comfort than to modern taste. It is remarkable as having been the residence of the famous Whiston, whose portrait may still be seen here; it was painted by Sarah Curtis, afterwards the wife of Bishop Hoadly. In the church-yard of Lynden may be seen the monument of Whiston, who was buried here. He died December 9th, 1667, in the 85th year of his age.

NORMANTON HOUSE, five miles from Uppingham, stands in a park of 400 acres. The house is a handsome modern building of white stone; each suite of apartments on the two floors is furnished with doors displaying a view of the whole, and as there are mirrors at each extremity, the effect is remarkably fine. The gardens are modern, but not extensive, and the grounds are neatly laid out.

OAKHAM, 16 miles from Leicester, the county town, is situated in a rich valley, called the Vale of Cadmas. The church is dedicated to All Saints, and is a spacious structure. The outer walls of its castle and ditch are still remaining, but the castle itself has been long demolished; the building, which is now called the castle, was built with the materials of the old one. It is now the hall where the assizes are held, and the public business of the county transacted. The town has some well endowed alms-houses.

Markets on Monday and Saturday. Fairs, March 15th, May 6th, and September 11th. Number of houses, 348. Inhabitants, 1,613.

TOLTHORPE, 2½ miles from Stamford. The mansion-house is an old building of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, but is partly modernized. Near it is a chalybeate spring, in some degree resembling the water at Tunbridge Wells.

UPPINGHAM, a market town, seven miles from Oakham, consisting principally of one street, stands on an eminence. The houses are well-built, and the streets clean and neat; it has a good hospital and free-school, both erected in 1584. The church is an ancient Gothic structure, containing many monuments. At a place called the Brand, are annual horse races.

Market on Wednesday. Fairs, 7th March, and 7th July. Number of houses, 271. Inhabitants, 1,393.

SHROPSHIRE.

Length 48 miles. Breadth 30. Circumference 210. Square miles 1,403. Square acres 897,920. Hundreds 15. Market Towns 17. Parishes 206. Houses 36,854. Persons 200,800.—Dioceses of Litchfield, Coventry, and Hereford.—Oxford Circuit.—Members to Parliament 12.—Militia-men 640.

BOUNDARIES.—*Shropshire*, is bounded on the north by Denbighshire, by the detached part of Flintshire, and by Cheshire; on the east by Staffordshire; on the south by Worcestershire and Herefordshire, and on the west by Radnorshire, Montgomeryshire and Denbighshire. Its shape is an irregular parallelogram, somewhat approaching to an oval. The principal natural division of the county is the river Severn, which runs from north-west to south-east, dividing it into nearly equal parts. There is a considerable difference in the climate of this county, owing to the irregularity of its soil and surface; notwithstanding large yearly falls of timber, there are still some fine woods of oak growing in this county; there are many modern plantations of various sorts of firs and pine, generally mixed with different deciduous trees. In comparison with many other counties, Shropshire may be called enclosed, particularly with respect to field land; of the commons that remain, few are of large extent. The public roads of Shropshire are tolerably good, and are in a general state of improvement. The parochial roads are very indifferent.

There are mines of lead-ore, of a good quality, on the western side of the county, which have been productive: calamine is also met with, and the rock at Pinhill is strongly tinctured with copper: symptoms both of copper and lead appear in the Cardington-hills. Coal of an excellent quality is found on the eastern side of the county, and here is abundance of lime and building-stone. At Pitchford a mineral pitch is found, and near Jackfield, manufactures of coal tar; in the Hundred of North Bradford, are found several salt springs. In this county are several lakes or meres, covering from 40 to 116



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VIRGIL'S GROVE AT THE LEASOWES.

acres of ground. Accommodation by canal navigation is very considerable in Shropshire, by means of the Shropshire, the Shrewsbury, and the Ellesmere canals.

SOIL.—In the Hundred of Oswestry, there is a considerable quantity both of deep loam and gravelly soil. On the north-west side of the county adjoining Denbighshire, the soil lies over strata of coal and limestone; on the south-east it becomes sandy. Pinhill Hundred contains a mixture of boggy land and sand, lying over a red sand-stone, with a greater proportion of sound wheat land. Bradford north has some low land of a peaty nature, with some good meadow land, a considerable quantity of sands, and worn gravelly soils. In the franchise of Wenlock, pale coloured clays prevail, though there is some light land, and strata of coal, iron-stone, and lime-stones in great abundance, covered with a soil. In the hundreds of Stottesden, Overs, and Munslow, there is much clay, and considerable quantities of coal, iron-stone, and lime-stone, over which is a stony soil of great variety. In the Hundred of Cundover, there is more flat land, but still great inequality of surface, and a good deal of gravelly loam, sand and clay, often intermingled in very small beds, clayey soils lying over red sand-stone, and others with gravel or sand under them. In the Liberties of Shrewsbury, and in the Hundred of Ford, there is also much pebbly loam; some reddish rock and clay, north of Shrewsbury; and sone lighter coloured clays lying over lime-stone, on the north borders of Ford Hundred. The Hundred of Chirbury is still more uneven, but has plains of a deep light-coloured loam or clay. Purslow and Clun are very uneven. In the vales the pasture and meadow ground is very good.

AGRICULTURE.—*The crops* commonly cultivated in this county are wheat, barley, oats, pease, and turnips. Hops are cultivated on a small part near Herefordshire; hemp, flax, or cabbages are only got in small quantities. The culture of potatoes increases annually. The growth of hay and the improvement of pasture land are more neglected than any other branch of agriculture. On the borders of the Severn, &c., there are natural meadows,

constantly mown without any manure being bestowed upon them. The upland meadows are better attended to.

MANUFACTURES.—A principal branch of the commerce of Shropshire is the staple trade of Shrewsbury, in flannels and Welch webs. The manufactures of Ketley, and other places in the iron district, are the most considerable; tobacco pipes and garden-pots, with other vessels of a coarse fabric, are made at Brosley. At Caughley is a china manufacture of great excellence. At Coalport coloured china of all sorts is made, and there is a manufactory of that species of earthen-ware, called the Queen's, or Wedgwood's ware. There are several mills, and dye-houses, for dyeing woollens in this county. Near Shrewsbury many branches of the linen trade are also carried on. At Coleham is an extensive cotton factory.

RIVERS.—The river SEVERN is second only to the Thames. Its principal source is a small lake on the eastern side of Plinlimmon, from whence it flows in a devious direction, under the name of the Hafren river, to New-town. Beyond Welchpool, at which place it becomes navigable for barges, it enters the great plain of Salop: it then almost encircles Shrewsbury, and flows southward to Bridgenorth, Bewdley, Worcester, and Gloucester. Its course below Gloucester is chiefly south-west, until it assumes the title of the Bristol channel, and falls into the Atlantic ocean.

The principal tributary rivers are the Camlet, the Vyrnwey, the Tern, the Clun, the Ory, and the Teme. There are besides innumerable rivulets and streams, which adorn and fertilize this county.

Remarkable Places.

ACTON BURNEL CASTLE, is a short distance from Longnor. The remains of it form a square building, with a tower at each corner; the walls are exceedingly strong, and adorned with fine battlements, and rows of windows, with curious carved work. This castle is memorable for a session of parliament, which was held here in 1284; the lords sat in the castle, and the

commons in a large barn, the remains of which are still to be seen.

BATTLEFIELD, about four miles east of Shrewsbury, is remarkable as the scene of the memorable battle of Shrewsbury. In a plot of ground adjoining the churchyard there is a mound of earth, where the slain in the battle are said to have been buried: a grove of young oaks has been planted on their graves. The piece of land, now called King's Croft, is the place on which, as is supposed, Henry pitched his tent.

THE BIRCHES, near Colebrook Dale, remarkable for having been the scene of an extraordinary concussion of the earth, which in its effects perfectly agrees with those occasioned by the earthquakes in Calabria, in 178.

BISHOP'S CASTLE, eight miles and a half from Montgomery, is a market-town, situated on the river Clun; it is an ancient corporation, consisting of a bailiff, recorder, and 15 aldermen. The town-house is a neat structure, the streets are clean, and the houses in general well built; the town has a tolerable trade, and contains 267 houses; and 1,313 inhabitants.

BOSCOBEL HOUSE, near Tonge, rendered remarkable in English history, as having afforded an asylum to Charles II., after the fatal battle of Worcester. This mansion still remains a monument of this interesting portion of the life of Charles the II.; the end and back part of the house are nearly in their original state, but some of the other parts have been much altered; the interior has likewise been much changed, but what ever could be traced relative to the king's concealment, has been preserved with care. The places in which he was concealed, are chiefly in and adjoining a large chimney. The royal oak, said to have sprung from an acorn of the original oak that sheltered the King, stands near the middle of a large field, adjoining the garden.

BRIDGENORTH, a borough and market town, is 22 miles from Shrewsbury. The situation of this town is said by travellers to resemble that of old Jerusalem. There are two churches in the high town. The streets are paved with pebbles. The houses are well-built, par-

ticularly Mill Street. It is a place of great trade, both by land and water. The air is healthy, and the prospect most delightful. The hill, on which the upper part of the town stands, rises 60 yards from the bed of the river; many of the houses are founded upon the rock, and most of the cellars are caves hewn out of it. On the roofs of the caves are gardens, with foot-paths over them. The town is well supplied with water. There is a curious walk made from the high part of the town to the bridge, being a hollow way, hewn 20 feet through the depth of the rock. The town is governed by two bailiffs, elected out of 24 aldermen, by a jury of 14, together with 48 common-councilmen, a recorder, town clerk, &c. It sends two members to parliament. The corporation has many ancient privileges, with a free school for the sons of the burgesses; its market is well stocked with all kinds of provisions. There are several meeting-houses. Charles I. said, he esteemed this the most pleasant place in all his dominions. This venerable town is of Saxon origin, having been built by Ethelfleda, daughter of the Great Alfred.

Market on Saturday. Fairs on Thursday before Shrove Sunday, June 20, August 2nd, and October 29. Number of houses, 910. Inhabitants, 4,319.

BUILDWAS is celebrated for the remains of an Abbey of Cistercians, founded in the year 1135; it stands on the south bank of the Severn, in a rich pastoral valley, backed with woody banks, about 11 miles from Shrewsbury. The walls of the abbey church are nearly entire.

CAUSE CASTLE, near the village of Westburg. The site is perhaps one of the most lofty and commanding in the whole range of the Salopian frontier. The castle itself is in ruins; it has apparently been stript of all its dressed stone, as the fragments of the edifice left standing consist of the rude materials used for the filling up the interior of the thick walls.

CLEE HILLS are reckoned amongst the highest hills in the county, and may be seen at the distance of 60 miles.

COLEBROOK DALE is a serpentining glen, between two immense hills, about a mile from Madeley market. It is remarkable for its iron works, which are

the most extensive in England, and for its iron bridge, the foundation of which was laid in 1779. The abutments are of stone, but every other part of the bridge is of cast iron; the span of the arch is 106 feet six inches, and the height from the base line to the centre is 40 feet; the whole weight of the iron is 378 tons, 15 cwt. The effect produced by the number of steam engines, forges, mills, and machinery, at work, in Colebrook Dale, forms a spectacle at once terrific and sublime.

DRAYTON, 18 miles from Shrewsbury, is a clean little town, watered by the river Tern; its parish church, built in the time of King Stephen, was put into thorough repair in 1787, after being stripped of its Gothic honours; here is a manufacture of paper, and another of hair for chair bottoms, &c.

Markets on Wednesdays. Fairs on the Wednesday before Palm Sunday, the 19th September, and the 22nd of October. Number of houses, 597. Inhabitants, 3,162.

ELLESMERE, a market town, 16 miles from Shrewsbury; its principal traffic is in malt; its name is derived from an extensive lake or mere, which covers 10½ acres, and is exceedingly well stocked with fish. On the castle hill is one of the finest bowling-greens in the kingdom. This town has the benefit of a new navigable canal.

The market is on Thursdays, and the fairs are on the 3rd Tuesday in April, Whit-Tuesday, August 25th, and November 14th. Number of houses, 1,009. Inhabitants, 5,553.

GREAT, OR MUCH WENLOCK, 13 miles from Shrewsbury, is a borough and market town, consisting only of two streets, but is a very ancient corporation, and is said to have been the first town that sent members to parliament, by a writ from Edward IV., in 1478. The corporation consists of a bailiff, recorder, two justices of the peace, and 12 capital burgesses. Wenlock owes its celebrity principally to the remains of an ancient abbey. The parish church, adjoining the ruinous priory, bears many marks of Saxon antiquity.

HALES OWEN, 7½ miles from Birmingham, is pleasantly situated in a valley, and has many good houses; it was formerly noticed for its great abbey, of Præmonstra-

tensian canons, built in the reign of King John; from the few remains which are now standing, and the foundations which are still to be traced, it appears to have been a stately and extensive edifice. The parish church is a fine structure, and is particularly admired for its beautiful spire, supported by four curious arches. the town has not much trade. Here is a manufacture of nails, and various sorts of hardware.

Market on Monday. Fairs on Easter and Whit Mondays. Number of houses, 258. Inhabitants, 1,676.

HAUGHMOND ABBEY, four miles from Shrewsbury, is situated on a rising ground, backed by an extensive chase, or forest, which still bears much of the original wild and romantic character. The ruins are picturesque, but not extensive. It was formerly a house of regular canons of St. Augustine, founded in 1100, but is now totally deserted, except by the crows and martlets, that flit around its mouldering battlements.

HAWKSTONE PARK, the property of the Hill Family, nine miles from Whitchurch, is celebrated for its extraordinary combination of natural and artificial beauties, constituting one of the most attractive features of the county; the mansion is an elegant modern edifice, situated in a beautiful slope, on the north side of a romantic hill. The interior of the house corresponds with its external beauty. The chapel belonging to this seat is adorned with an emblematical representation of the Reformation, painted on the ceiling. The saloon is an elegant room, containing some valuable paintings; the principal is the siege of Namur, in which are portraits, taken from the life, of King William, the Elector of Bavaria, the Duke of Marlborough, Count Cohorn, and the Right Honourable Richard Hill. The grounds are laid out with great taste, and are richly ornamented. The summer-house is a neat octagonal building of freestone, the interior of which is adorned with frescoes, representing the four seasons, &c.; it commands a delightful prospect, and under it is a cold bath. The Grotto, an immense cave, supported by pillars hewn in the solid stone, is decorated with curious shells, petrifactions, and fossils, and has been much admired by travellers of every description. General Paoli was particularly pleased with it, and the point

whence he viewed it is called Paoli's Point. The retreat is a natural cave, containing a curious automaton of a hermit. The Fox's Knob is a crag so called in consequence of a fox leaping from it into the valley, and being killed by the fall. The terrace is a delightful walk, shaded by the finest verdure, and near it is an obelisk of freestone, 112 feet in height, which commands an extensive prospect, and is surmounted by a statue of Sir Rowland Hill, Lord Mayor of London in 1549 and 1550. South-west of the terrace is the tower, likewise commanding a fine prospect, and about a mile from it is the hanging wood, called Bury Walls. Neptune's Whim is a cottage in the Dutch style, ornamented with a statue of Neptune, and numerous Swiss prints, and other curiosities.

HOPTON CASTLE, near Bromfield. Of these remains very few historical records exist. The castle was taken during the civil war, in the reign of Charles I., and was afterwards nearly destroyed; it is a miserable ruin.

The LEASOWES, near Hales Owen, was once the property and residence of the poet Shenstone, who was born here in 1714; he received the rudiments of learning at the grammar-school of Hales Owen, whence he was removed to the tuition of Mr. Crumpton, from whose school he went to Pembroke College, Oxford, in 1732. He afterwards resided in London and in Bath; but at the decease of his grandmother retired to his paternal estate, which he adorned with the most refined taste and classic elegance. The walks were judiciously disposed, and interspersed with seats commanding delightful prospects of the surrounding country; and the most beautiful spots were adorned with inscriptions from Virgil and Horace, or composed by himself, characteristic of the scene, or expressive of attachment to some friend. He died at the Leasowes in 1763, and was buried in the church-yard of Hales Owen; in the church a stone urn is erected to his memory. Though this estate has been suffered to decline since his death, there are still sufficient remains of his taste and genius to consecrate his memory.

LILLESHULL, near Newport. In a solitary and re-

tired situation, partly surrounded with wood, stands the ruins of Lilleshull Abbey. A very considerable part of the abbey church remains. The great western entrance is a fine round Norman arch, richly recessed with ribs and running foliage.

LUDLOW, 29 miles from Shrewsbury, a borough and market town, stands on the north side of the Teme, near its conflux with the Corve; this town was much damaged by the civil wars during the reigns of King Stephen and Henry VI. It receives great advantages by its thoroughfare to Wales, and the education of the Welsh youth of both sexes. It is a neat and clean town, and is in a flourishing state; it was incorporated by Edward IV., and is governed by 2 bailiffs, 12 aldermen, 25 common-councilmen, a recorder, a town-clerk, steward, chamberlain, coroner, &c. The parochial church is large, and was formerly collegiate. On the north side of the town there was a rich priory, of which there are few ruins to be seen, except those of its church. The principal street is spacious, well paved and lighted, and the houses are generally neat and well-built. The town-house is an elegant building of hewn stone. The church, a venerable stone structure, stands in the upper part of the town, and contains many curious antique monuments and inscriptions. The public buildings are a commodious market-house, a spacious hall, an assembly-room, a neat hospital, an alms-house for decayed inhabitants, a good school-house, and a blue-coat school. The castle was dismantled by the forces of Henry VI. after the battle of Wakefield; it was afterwards restored, and Prince Arthur, elder brother of Henry VIII., held his court and died here. The situation is beautiful, and the battlements of great height and thickness; but the whole remains are completely ruinous and covered with ivy. Milton's Masque of *Comus* was first represented in this castle, under the direction of the Earl of Bridgenorth. This borough sends two members to parliament; and the two bailiffs are the returning officers. The country round this town is extremely pleasant, fruitful, and populous, especially the part called the Corvesdale.

Markets on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. Fairs on Tuesday before Easter, Whit Wednesday,

August 21, September 28, and December 8. Number of houses, 780; inhabitants, 3,897.

MADELEY, eight miles from Bridgenorth. The market-house is erected near the foot of the famous iron bridge cast at Colebrook Dale. Here is a navigable canal to the Ketley iron-works, and a work for obtaining fossil tar, or petroleum, from the condensed smoke of pit-coal. Number of houses, 291; inhabitants, 4,758.

NEWPORT, 19 miles from Shrewsbury, is a small market town; the parish church stands in the middle of the main street which forms the town; it is an ancient structure, but the side aisles have been rebuilt in the modern style with brick, while the other portions have all the venerable marks of age. The free-school is a stately brick building, and has a library for the use of the scholars, who are here qualified for the university. This town contends with Shiffnal for the honour of having given birth to that humourous, but licentious poet, Tom Brown.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, Saturday before Palm Sunday, May 28, July 27, and December 10. Number of houses, 517; inhabitants, 2,307.

OSWESTRY, 17 miles from Shrewsbury, is a market town, pleasantly situated on an eminence; this place was much harassed during the conquest of Wales by Edward I, and during the barons' wars King John set fire to the town; it was soon afterwards rebuilt, and again destroyed by Llewellyn in the year 1233. The church is an extensive building, and there is a free grammar-school. The corporation consists of 12 aldermen and 15 common council.

The market is on Wednesday. Fairs, March 15, May 12, Wednesday before Midsummer, August 15, Wednesday before Michaelmas Day, and December 10. Number of houses, 1,153; inhabitants, 5,839.

The SHELTON OAK, about a mile and a-half from Shrewsbury, is remarkable from a tradition, that at the battle of Shrewsbury Owen Glyndowr ascended it to reconnoitre; and finding that the king was in great force, and that the Earl of Northumberland had not joined his son Hotspur, he fell back to Oswestry, and, immediately after the battle, retreated precipitately to

Wales. This venerable tree is now very much decayed, and has a hollow at the bottom sufficient to hold with ease half-a-dozen persons.

SHREWSBURY, 155½ miles from London, is situated nearly in the centre of the county of which it is the capital. It stands on two gently rising eminences, formed by the Severn into a most agreeable peninsula, which has a bold and commanding appearance. The elevation of its site, the dryness of the soil, and the purity and excellence of its water, all contribute to give that salubrity to the air, for which it has always been celebrated. While Shrewsbury ranks high among our ancient provincial capitals for the eventful importance of its history, it is no less eminent in the beauties of its situation and prospects. Unhappily, the interior of Shrewsbury by no means corresponds with its external beauty. The streets are intricately disposed, many of them steep and narrow, and all indifferently paved. Shrewsbury is a corporation by prescription. It consists of a mayor, recorder, steward, town-clerk, 24 aldermen, 48 common-council men, and the usual retinue of inferior officers. Four sessions are held in the course of the year, and the mayor and some of the aldermen who are magistrates, attend in the exchequer every Tuesday, to administer public justice. Of the public edifices of Shrewsbury, the first in point of consequence is the castle belonging to Earl Powis, but little idea of its former grandeur can be formed by an inspection of its present state. The remains consist of the keep, the walls of the inner court, and the great arch of the interior gate. The walls of this building are 10 feet in thickness, and its beams of vast dimensions. The abbey church, in its present state, presents few features of its ancient grandeur. The interior has an air of majestic simplicity. The theatre is a neat and commodious building. The church of St. Giles is a small plain building, bearing marks of considerable antiquity. It is now chiefly used for sepulture, and as public worship is only performed twice a-year within its walls, it exhibits a deplorable spectacle of neglect, damp and decay. Of the old collegiate church of St. Chad, only a small part called the chapel now remains. The new church of St. Chad, erected on a commanding eminence, is constructed of the beautiful stone of Grinshill,

on a plan extremely novel. The exterior beauty of this church consists more in the fineness of its materials, and the elegant splendour of its ornaments, than in the harmonious proportion and disposition of its parts. The collegiate church of St. Mary is a large venerable building, in the form of a cross. The exterior exhibits various styles of architecture. Its lofty and beautiful spire forms a conspicuous object of ornament to the town. The church of St. Alkmund was founded by queen Elfleda, daughter of Offa, king of Mercia. Like the other sacred edifices of Shrewsbury, this church was erected at different periods, and exhibits various styles of architecture. Of its antiquity, however, few features remain. The body of the old church was pulled down, and a new one built, in 1795. The modern building is a tolerable imitation of the ancient pointed architecture. St. Julian's church is modern, and built of brick and stone. The interior is handsome and commodious. The east window is filled with fine painted glass. There were convents in this town, belonging to the Austin, Franciscan and Dominican friars. Few remains of those buildings are visible. There are several meeting-houses. The market-hall, a very ancient structure, stands in the centre of the town, the upper part forms a grand depôt for Welsh flannels, &c., the lower is used as a general market. The charitable foundations of Shrewsbury, are, the hospital of St. Giles, the hospital of St. John the Baptist, St. George, and St. Chad's alms-houses, Millington's hospital, the Salop infirmary, and the house of industry. In 1785 a handsome county-hall was erected, and in 1793, a county gaol, after the plan of the philanthropic Howard. Shrewsbury is celebrated for the excellence of its cakes and brawn. Near St. Chad's church, on the banks of the Trent, is a delightful promenade, called St. Chad's Walk, which is much frequented, particularly on Sundays, when a military band generally performs there. In 1400, took place the famous battle between Henry IV. and Hotspur, when the latter was defeated and killed.

Its markets are Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Fairs, Saturday after 15th March, Wednesday after Easter-week, Wednesday before Holy Thursday, 3d July, 12th August, 2d October, and 12th December. Number of houses 2,597 ; inhabitants 13,486.

WELLINGTON is a small neat town, near the Wrekin. Its church is a very handsome modern structure, and near it is a very respectable charity-school. In this town and its vicinity Charles I. mustered his forces, and made a solemn protestation that he would defend the established religion, govern by law, and preserve the liberty of the subject; and that, if he conquered, would uphold the privileges of parliament.

Market on Thursday; fairs, 22d of June, 17th and 29th of November. Number of houses, 1,467; inhabitants, 7,531.

WEM is a market town, about eight miles from Whitchurch, pleasantly situated near the source of the river Roden; it consists of a large open street, with a few smaller ones. The church is a handsome structure, with a lofty tower steeple, and a fine chancel.

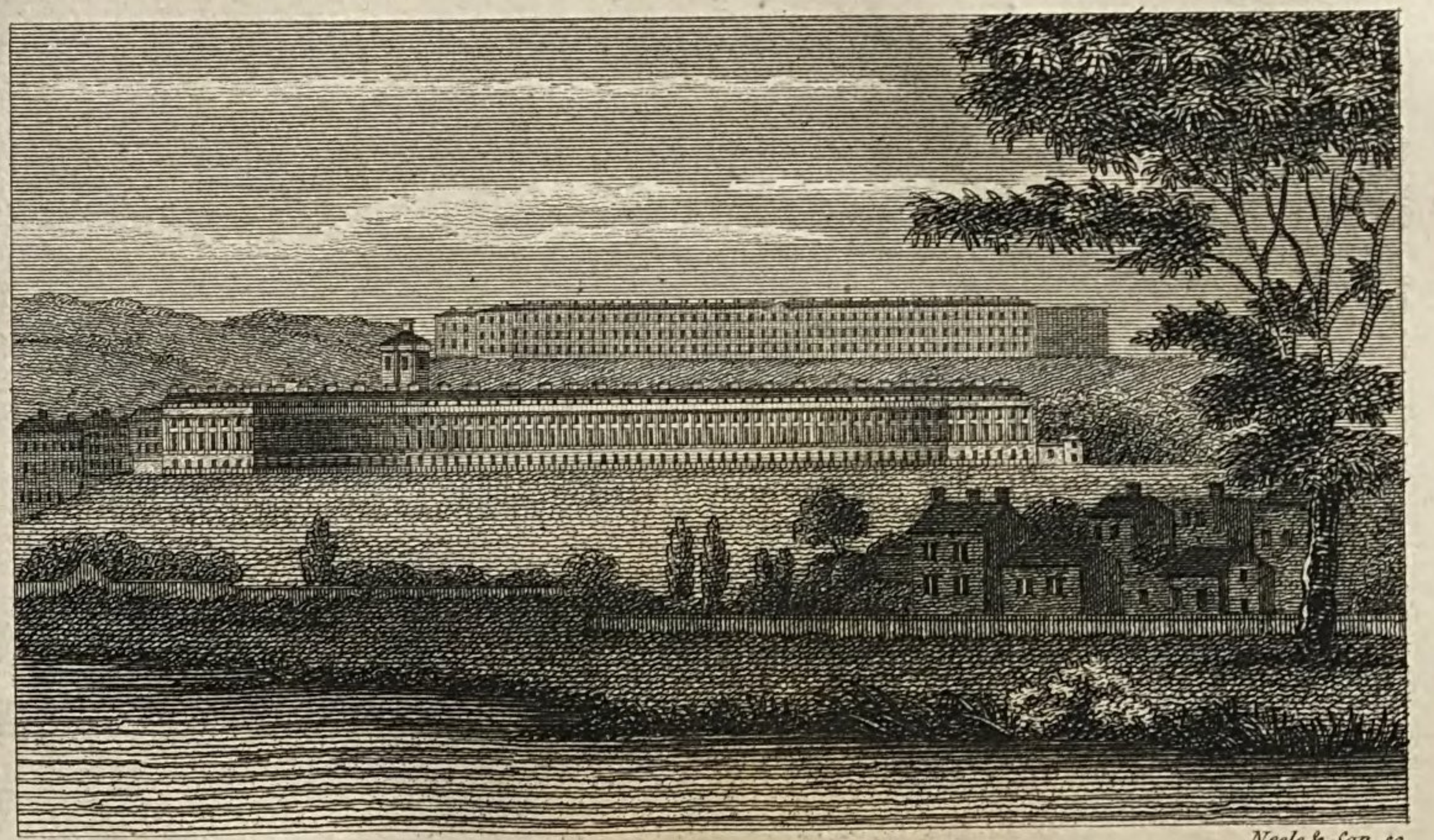
Markets on Thursday; fairs 5th May, 29th June, and 22d November. Number of houses, 582; inhabitants, 3087.

WHITCHURCH is a handsome market town, seated on an acclivity, at the top of which stands the church, commanding an extensive view. Here is an excellent free-school, also meeting-houses, a charity-school for children of both sexes, and alms-houses for women. This town is much resorted to during the horse-races, which are frequently held here.

Market on Friday; fairs, on Whitsunday, and the 28th of October. Number of houses, 876; inhabitants, 4,515.

WREKIN, about a mile from Wroxeter. The lofty and venerable Wrekin, "stretches its slow length along." The view from its highest point is delightfully awful. The vast plain of Salop, the bold outline of the Welsh hills, the romantic aspect of the Caer Caradoc, the Lawley, and the Stiper-stones, with intervening varieties of hill and dale, are objects that fill the mind with admiration, at the wonderful works of the mighty Architect of nature.

WROXETER, five miles south-east of Shrewsbury, is one of the most interesting places in the county; its high antiquity, the many remains of its ancient importance, and the circumstance of its having contributed very much to enlarge, if not to produce, the present capital of the county, all tend to attract the notice of the antiquary, the medallist, the historian, and the topographer.



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CRESCENT BATH.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

Length 65 Miles. Breadth 45. Circumference 240. Square miles 1,549. Square acres 991,301. Hundreds 42. Market towns 28. Parishes 474. Houses 54,787. Persons 313,300.—Diocese of Bristol.—Western circuit. Members to Parliament 18. Militia men 840.

BOUNDARIES.—This maritime county is bounded by the Bristol Channel on the west; Gloucestershire on the north; Wiltshire on the east; and Devonshire on the south and south-west. The sea-coast is very irregular, in some places projecting into the sea in rocky promontories, and in others forming fine bays, with flat and level shores. Although the climate of Somersetshire varies, it may be generally denominated mild and genial: about Poulden Hill, the weather is often very cold and boisterous, and the air on the summit of the Mendip Hills is extremely piercing, during the greatest part of the year. There are few districts of the kingdom possessing greater fertility than Somersetshire; it produces the most luxuriant herbage, and there is scarcely a town of note in the kingdom, that does not derive advantage from the oxen, sheep, hogs, cider, cheese, and butter, of this county. The ancient forests, are, Selwood, near Frome; Mendip, between Frome and the Bristol Channel; Exmoor, between the port of Watchet and the north-west part of Devon; Neroche, near Ilminster; and North-Petherton, near Bridgwater. This county is by no means deficient in mineral productions; as lead, copper, lapis calaminaris, manganese, coal, lime-stone, paving-stone, tiling-stone, free-stone, fuller's-earth, marl, and ochre, are found in various parts. Somersetshire is fertile in rare and curious plants, on the hills and desert wastes are the dwarf juniper, cranberry and the whortleberry; the rocks on the coast have great quantities of laver and *lichen marinus*, or sea-bread. In the moors, which were once inundated by the sea, grows the gale, or candleberry myrtle. Wood is exceedingly plentiful in most

parts of the county, and grows to the greatest state of perfection.

Soil.—It is difficult to give a general character to the soil of this county, as almost every species, except chalk, of which there is but very little, and that in the eastern division, may be found in various parts of this county, the soil of which is generally of a highly fertile and productive quality. The soil of the hills has been described in the following manner by Mr. Billingsley: Quantock Hills, a thin variable soil, covering a loose shelly rock, interspersed with occasional lime-stone; Poulden Hill, a strong surface, covering a bed of clay or marl; Mendip Hills, Broadfield, and Leigh Down, a gravelly loam, on a lime-stone rock; Landsdown, a free-stone grit; White Down, variable; and Black Down, a thin surface of black earth, on a bed of sand or gravel. Towards the centre of the county, where the principal rivers unite, are fine and marshy moors of great extent, noted for the produce of geese and their feathers.

Agriculture.—Much cheese is made in the lower parts of the county in general, and of which a great deal is exported. The excellence of the Cheddar cheese is universally known. Many cattle of bulk, nearly equal to the Lincolnshire, are fed in the luxuriant meadows about the head of the Parret. The great Vale of Taunton is peculiarly famous for its fertility. The crops of corn are so abundant in this county, that it forms a considerable branch of traffic with different parts of the kingdom.

Manufactures.—The Mendip Hills afford abundance of coal, lead, and calamine; the lead is particularly hard, and is mostly exported for making bullets and shot; the calamine is sent to Bristol, being used in the making of brass; copper, manganese, bole and red-ochre, are also found in these hills. The manufacture of cloth is carried on to a great extent in this county, particularly in the vicinity of Bath.

Rivers.—The principal rivers of this county are, the Lower Avon, Ax, Brue, Parret, Yow, Cale, Chew, Tone, Frome, Ivel, Ex, and Bare.

The Lower Avon is a navigable river, rising in the hilly district of North Wiltshire, not far from Wootton

Basset. Emerging from the hills, it falls into the vale which leads from Christian Malford to Chippenham; after which it runs through the clothing district of Wiltshire, and encircles the city of Bath on two sides; from whence it flows to Bristol, and conveys the abundant trade of that opulent city to the Severn.

The Ax rises on the west side of the Mendip Hills; being joined by a little stream, issuing from the high Cliffs of Chedder, it winds through a tract of marshes to fall into the Bristol Channel.

The Brue rises within the western border of Wiltshire, and meets the Bristol Channel near the mouth of the Parret, in the Bay of Bridgewater.

The Parret rises at South Parret, in Dorsetshire, from whence it flows by Crewkerne; joined by the Tone, it proceeds in a north-westerly direction, traversing the marsh of Sedgemoor to Bridgewater Bay.

The rivers not navigable flow through rich and fertile tracts, and many of their banks are ornamented by grounds and seats, with which this extensive county abounds. These several rivers furnish trout, salmon, roach, dace, perch, eels, pike, gudgeon, carp, and tench. On the sea-coast there are tublin flounders, sand-dabs, hakes, pipers, shrimps, prawns, crabs, muscles, soles, herrings, plaices, porpoises, skaits, and starfish.

Remarkable Places.

ATHELNEY, ISLE OF, near Bridgewater, a spot of rising grounds, between the hamlet of Boroughbridge and the church. It derived its name from two Saxon words, signifying the Isle of Nobles. This spot is rendered famous as the asylum of the illustrious Alfred, whose heroism in adversity, and wisdom in prosperity, are almost equally the objects of our admiration.

BATH, 105 miles from London, one of the finest cities in the kingdom, owes its origin and importance to its medicinal springs. It may be regarded as a city of great beauty and increasing interest, and as the most frequented and fashionable watering-place in England. The progressive elevations of the houses, rising above each other in admirable succession, and the modern elegance

of its numerous public buildings, entitle it to the appellation of one of the finest cities in Europe. This city is divided into four parishes: St. Peter and St. Paul, St. James, St. Michael, and Walcot, exclusive of the out-parishes of Bath-Hampton, Bath-wick, Bath-ford, and Bath-easton. The abbey church of Bath is of that class of architecture commonly denominated the "Florid Gothic," though partaking very little of that character; it remains in the same form as when finished in 1582. The western is the grand entrance, and is distinguished by the richness of its ornaments; the whole fabric is illuminated by 52 windows, from the number of which it has been called the Lantern of England. The altar-piece represents the Wise Men's Offering, and the organ is considered one of the best in Europe. Amongst the monuments with which the interior of the church is adorned, are those of Quin the actor, and Nash, the master of the ceremonies. St. James's church is a neat free-stone structure, erected in 1769. The interior is elegantly fitted up, and is adorned with a picture of Christ at Emmaus. St. Michael's church displays but little architectural beauty. It was erected in 1742, and contains a painting of our Saviour, and another of Moses. Walcot church, dedicated to St. Swithin, was rebuilt in 1780; it is a neat building, and has a good organ. Besides these places of worship, there are the following: Queen-square chapel, considered as a monument of the taste of its architect; its exterior is of the Doric, and its interior of the Ionic order. Margaret chapel, a spacious but inelegant building, erected in 1773. All Saints chapel, a most elegant structure, in the florid Gothic style. Kensington chapel, built by subscription, in 1795. Christ's church, built for the express purpose of providing a place of worship for the poor. The Octagon, an elegant chapel, situate in Milsom-street. Laura chapel, a commodious building, erected in Henrietta-street. The little chapel of St. Mary Magdalene, standing near the top of Holloway, was built in the 15th century, and has long been overgrown with ivy; this chapel being built in a neat Gothic style, has a romantic effect, when viewed from the road. In addition to the places of worship in the church establishment, there are several others for the use of various classes of dissenters, particularly the Unitarian meeting-house, in Trim-

street; the Baptist meeting-house, in Somerset-street; the Quaker's meeting-house; the chapel of the Moravian Brethren, in Monmouth-street; a chapel belonging to the Calvinists, in Argyle-street; a chapel of the late Wesleyan Methodists, in New-king-street; and a chapel of the Countess of Huntingdon, in the Vineyards. There is also a Roman Catholic chapel, in Richard-street, a handsome and elegant structure. The pump-room is a handsome edifice, erected in 1797. In a recess at the west end is the music gallery, and at the east end is a marble statue of Nash. In the centre of the south side, opposite the entrance, is a marble vase, from which the water is handed to the company, and attached to the wall are several inscriptions. In the architrave, outside the pump-room, is a Greek inscription, which may be translated, "Bath-water is better than Bath wine." Being a public promenade, this room is open to all persons decently dressed, but those taking the waters are expected to pay about 1*l.* 1*s.* per month, besides a donation to the pumper. During the season, an excellent band of musicians perform every morning. The public baths are four in number; the king's bath and queen's bath, which are connected with each other; the hot bath, and the cross bath; the private baths are those belonging to the corporation, in Stall-street, adjoining the king's bath, built in 1788, with dry pumps, sudatories, and every other accommodation; and the neat and convenient baths, called the Duke of Kingston's, or the abbey baths, belonging to Earl Manvers. The Bath waters are especially efficacious in that state of gout termed atonic, which is so frequently an ultimate condition of the regular and inflammatory gout. The external application of the water is highly beneficial in palsy, chronic rheumatism, and cutaneous diseases, and no less so in the local affections of scrofula and rheumatism. The water, in all cases, should be drunk hot from the pump, or else in as warm a state as it can be conveyed to the patient's lodgings. The quantity is seldom more than a pint and a half in the course of a day, and is divided into three portions, two before breakfast, allowing half an hour between them, and a third at noon. Of the charitable institutions of Bath, the general hospital claims the pre-eminence, being, as its name implies, established for the reception of

all the sick in the United Kingdom, whose complaints are of a nature which require relief from the healing springs of the place. The other charitable institutions are, the city dispensary and asylum, formed in 1792; the casualty hospital, opened in 1788; the puerperal, or child-bed charity, instituted in 1792, Bellot's hospital, St. Catherine's hospital, St. John's hospital, Bath penitentiary, and several others. Besides these institutions for the relief or cure of bodily complaints, there are in this city three establishments for the instruction of the young mind, and as many for the diffusion of scientific and philosophical knowledge. The public grammar-school, charity schools, and Sunday schools; the society for the encouragement of agriculture, arts, manufactures, and commerce; the philosophical society, and the public library. During the year 1810, it was resolved to establish a free-school, on the truly excellent plan of Joseph Lancaster. At this city has also been instituted an Auxiliary Bible Society. The Guild-hall, in the High-street, was erected in 1775; it has a handsome front towards the street, and a simple, but more classical one facing the market. Over the ground-floor, which is occupied by various apartments, for the administration of justice, is the common-council-room, and a superb banquetting room, ornamented with portraits of the king and queen, the late prince and princess of Wales, Lords Chatham and Camden. The corporation consists of a mayor, recorder, and aldermen, besides 20 common-councilmen, two bailiffs, and two constables. Bath sends two members to parliament, elected by the corporation. The amusements of Bath are various, consisting of a theatre, assembly-rooms, and public gardens, besides the harmonic society, and catch-club. The theatre, erected in 1805, stands in Beaufort-square, and is an elegant and convenient building; the interior is fitted up with great taste, and has a very light appearance. The new assembly rooms at the east end of the circus, between Bennet and Alfred-streets, were first opened in 1771, they are considered the most spacious and elegant suite of apartments for this purpose in the kingdom, and on ball nights accommodate from eight to twelve hundred persons; attached to the ball-room are rooms for cards, billiards, coffee, &c. The lower assembly-rooms, situated on the walks from the Grove to

the Parades, were erected in 1750; they are fitted up in a spacious and elegant style. Sydney-garden, Vauxhall, is situated at the extremity of Pulteney-street, and is adorned with lawns, alcoves, bowling-greens, merlin-swings, grottoes, and labyrinths, which, during the season, are enlivened by the company frequenting the public breakfasts or galas at this place. Amongst the streets in Bath, remarkable for the beauty of their architecture, may be mentioned, Great Pulteney-street; the Circus, a pile of uniform structure, adorned with the Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian orders, and all the various ornaments of the different orders; St. James's-square, Camden-place, Portland-place, and the Royal crescent. The latter is a fine assemblage of buildings, on an elliptical form, with a single order of Ionic pillars supporting the superior cornice; it commands a fine prospect of the city and of the adjacent hills. The prison of Bath stands at the bottom of Grove-street, a little to the left of the new bridge over the Avon.

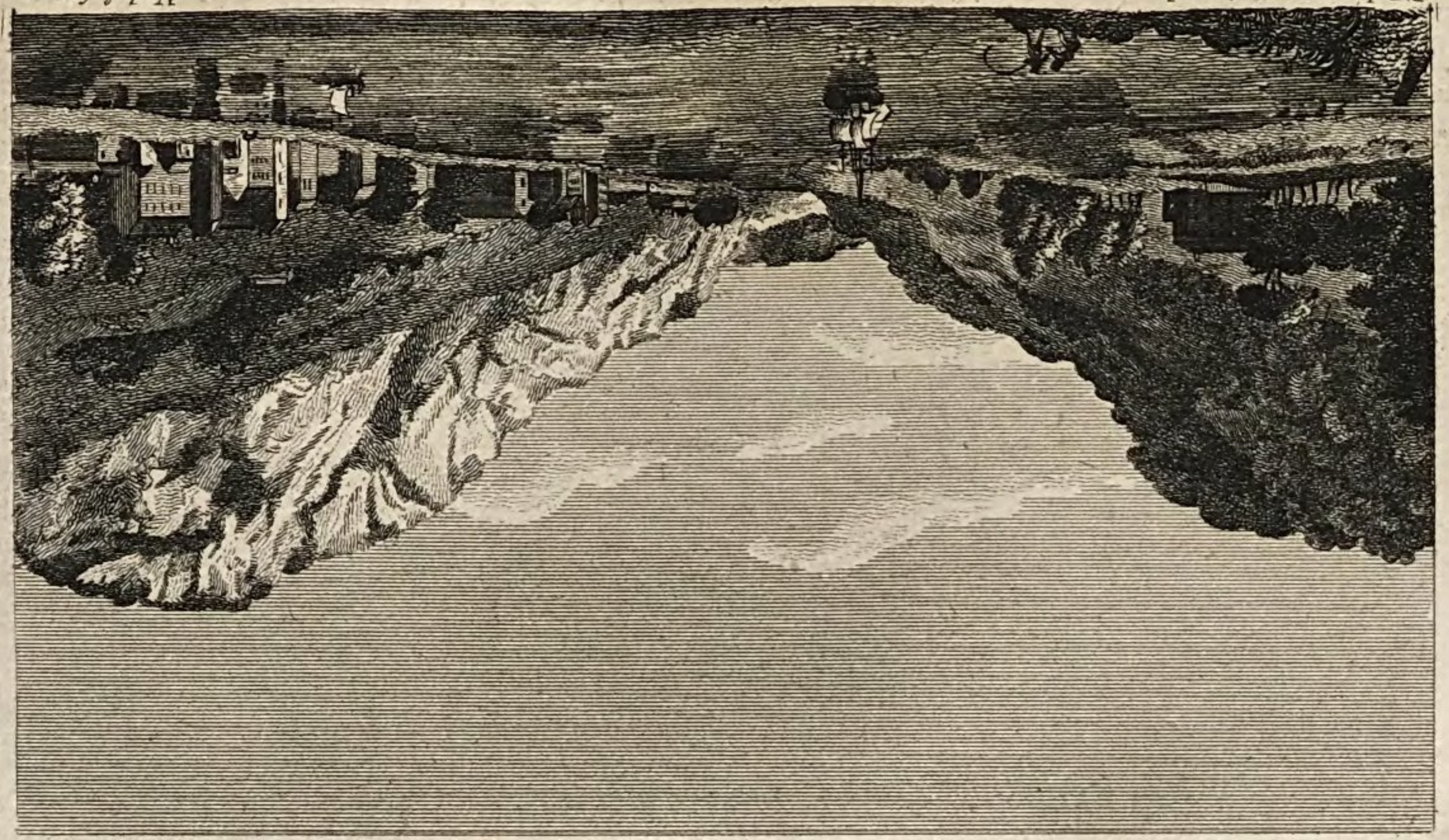
Markets on Wednesdays and Saturdays; fairs, 14th February and 10th July. Number of houses, 3,809; inhabitants, 31,522.

BRIDGEWATER, 10 miles from Taunton, is a populous borough and market town. The church is a handsome large building, surmounted by as lofty a spire as any in England. A short distance from the church is an excellent free-school. The town-hall is a fine large structure. Here are also several meeting-houses. This town was first constituted a free-borough by King John, in 1200, who built a castle here. A mayor, recorder, two aldermen, with the power of justices of the peace, and 24 common-council-men, manage the affairs of the town. There are also a town-clerk, water-bailiff, and two sergeants-at-mace, and the borough sends two members to parliament, elected by all the inhabitants that pay scot and lot. The houses in general are irregular, but the streets wide and well paved. The river being navigable for ships of considerable tonnage, enables the inhabitants to trade with any part of the world.

Markets on Thursday and Saturday; fairs 24th July, 2d October, 27th December. and the first Monday in Lent. Number of houses, 512; inhabitants, 3,922.

BRISTOL, 112¾ from London, is certainly one of the most important cities in the empire. It is seated on seven hills, and in other respects resembles ancient Rome. These elevations, though seated in low ground, and the windings of the two rivers through the city, render Bristol altogether one of the most healthy and pleasing cities in England. It has several public edifices of great beauty and importance. Here are 19 churches belonging to the establishment, besides places of worship appropriate to almost all the various denominations of dissenters, and a synagogue for the service of the Jews. The cathedral gate has been reckoned one of the finest remains of architectural antiquity in the kingdom. The general appearance of this cathedral is somewhat heavy; the tower is low, the windows are of painted glass, and the inside is adorned with a few monuments, and richly ornamented with Saxon interlaced arches, though the ornaments are now so confused, that it is difficult to distinguish them. The finest parochial church in the kingdom, St. Mary, Redcliffe, is the chief architectural beauty of Bristol. The whole building exhibits one of the most perfect specimens of ornamented Gothic architecture this country can boast. The charitable foundations and public schools of Bristol are very numerous. The quay and harbour are objects of great interest to the inhabitants, as well as to foreign commerce. Bristol bridge is an elegant structure of three arches. The iron bridge, which extends from Clifton Down, near the old wind-mill, to Leigh Down, has an arch of about 200 feet in height, and will admit ships of any magnitude to sail underneath, full rigged. Coals are uncommonly plentiful and cheap in this town, there being pits of great extent within a very short distance. Water is also very plentiful, the inhabitants being supplied from pumps and conduits, in almost every street. The corporation consists of a mayor, a recorder, a lord high steward, 11 aldermen, two sheriffs, 48 common-councilmen, a town-clerk, a chamberlain, vice-chamberlain, sword-bearer, and under sheriff. Bristol sends two members to parliament, the right of election lying in the freemen having forty shillings a year, and the free burgesses. The whole number of voters amount to about 7,500. The general appearance of this city is not prepossessing. Many of the houses af-

HOT WELLS BRISTOL.



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ford curious specimens of ancient domestic architecture. Many new streets of modern elegance have been formed, and the old houses as they fall to ruins, are replaced by good and comfortable buildings. The places of public amusement are, the theatre-royal, in King-street, built in 1766, and the assembly room in Prince's-street. Sir William Draper, well known for his controversy with Junius, and Chatterton, the unfortunate poet, were natives of this city. Mrs. Mary Robinson, the English Sappho, as she has been not inaptly styled, was born near the venerable cathedral on College-green. Here are some considerable woollen manufactures, and no less than 15 glass-houses. There are 13 city companies, several of whom have elegant halls. There are also several handsome squares. The prison has been lately enlarged, and rendered very healthy. A mile below the city is the Hot Wells, a great resort for invalids during the summer. Here are also a pump-room, ball-room, coffee-house, taverns, and elegant lodging-houses. (See CLIFTON, *Gloucestershire*). All persons are free to trade here, and the freedom of the city can be purchased at a very moderate sum. There is an astonishing plenty and variety of provisions, fruit, and vegetables, in the markets, perhaps unequalled in England.

Markets, Wednesday and Saturday; fairs, the 1st of March, and the 1st of September. Number of houses 11,100; inhabitants 76,520.

BRUTON, 109 miles from London, is a small well built town, considerable for its manufacture of stockings. The church is a large building, and has two quadrangular towers; one occupying the west end, is finished in the most elaborate style of Gothic architecture, and ornamented with elegant pinnacles. In the market-place is an ancient hexagonal cross, supported by pillars; the roof consists entirely of the ribs of arches, elegantly adorned with fine sculpture. The market-house is a well constructed building. There is an excellent hospital in this town, for the support of a certain number of poor men, women, and boys. The country in the neighbourhood of Bruton is remarkably pleasing. The vales are meadows, the declivities orchards, and the eminences sheep-walks.

Market on Saturday; fairs, 4th May, and 19th September. Number of houses 320; inhabitants 1,630.

CADBURY SOUTH, near Wincanton. The neighbourhood of this place is uncommonly grand and picturesque, and possesses the remains of one of the most famous fortifications in this, or perhaps in any other county. It is situated on the northern extremity of a ridge of high hills, commanding an extensive prospect.

CHARD, seven miles from Crewkerne, is a market town, consisting chiefly of two good streets intersecting each other, and a long row of houses called Crow-lane. The houses are generally well built, and are commodious. The church is a large handsome building, with a square embattled tower. At the angle where the two streets meet, stands an ancient Gothic building, formerly a chapel, but now used as a town-hall; and another ancient edifice, formerly the assize-hall, now used as a market-house. Several streams run through the town, and keep it clean. This town is famous in the history of the 16th century, as being the place where the royalists were defeated under Colonel Penruddock.

Market on Monday. Fairs, May 4, August 3, and November 2. 540 houses, and 2,900 inhabitants.

CHEDDAR lies about two miles from Axbridge. Here immense caverns, enormous chasms, and bold protuberances, are mixed together in awful variety. Nothing, indeed, can exceed the grandeur of the scenery which this parish displays. The chasm, called Cheddar Cliffs, is certainly the most striking object of its kind in England. Cheddar has long been celebrated for its cheese, which is indeed equal to any in England, and by many considered little inferior to the celebrated Parmasan. This advantage arises from the rich pasturage of the adjacent moors.

CREWKERNE, $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Beaminster, a market town, pleasantly situated in a valley, consists of five principal streets. The church is a fine ancient Gothic structure, richly ornamented, and four lofty pillars support the tower. In the town are two good charity schools and two alms-houses. The market-house is roomy, and stands in the centre of the place.

Market on Saturday. Fair, September 4. 500 houses, and 3,000 inhabitants.

DULVERTON, 13 miles from South Moulton, is a very ancient town, consisting of two well-built streets,

which are kept clean and wholesome by having streams of water constantly running through them. The church is a neat Gothic structure, having an embattled tower 60 feet high, with a small turret at one corner.

Market on Saturday, Fairs. July 10 and November 8. Number of houses, 205; inhabitants; 1,134.

DUNKERY, near Exford, the highest mountain in the west of England, is 12 miles in circumference at the base, and 1770 feet in perpendicular height; no part of this hill is cultivated.

DUNSTER, five miles from Watchet, is a market town, situated on the margin of a rich and fertile vale, opening towards the Bristol Channel. The town is in general well built. The parishioners are entitled to vote at the election of the members for Minehead. The church of Dunster is one of the largest Gothic structures of the kind in England, built by Henry VII., as a mark of gratitude for the assistance he received from the inhabitants in the famous battle of Bosworth Field. This church is divided into two parts by a tower, which rises in the centre to the height of 90 feet, and is supported by four large pillars. It is embattled at the top. The Castle of Dunster is situated on a steep hill, surrounded by beautiful parks. The view from it is delightfully varied and extensive.

Market on Friday. Fair on Whit-Monday. Number of houses, 183; inhabitants, 772.

ENMORE CASTLE, near Bridgewater, the country seat of Earl Egmont. The present building is in the antico-modern style, and was erected by the late earl. The figure of this structure is quadrangular, embattled on every side; and the entrance is defended by a drawbridge of very curious construction. In the hall there are a number of busts and coats of arms; and the upper apartments are embellished with paintings. The stables and out-offices are all under ground. The castle stands on a gentle eminence, commanding a rich and extensive prospect, particularly towards the Bristol Channel.

EXMOOR FOREST, bordering on the Bristol Channel, is now a wild and uncultivated range of country; many curious plants are found here and in the neighbourhood. This forest was, in the time of the Druids, dedi-

cated to religious rites. Here the attentive observer can perceive many traces of ancient sepulchres. On the skirts of this forest are a number of circular intrenchments.

FARLEY, near Bath, derives celebrity from the remains of an ancient castle, and the ruins of an abbey. Nearly the whole of the castle is now destroyed. The antiquity of this place is very great; it was for several years in the possession of the Saxon Thanes. The chapel of the castle is nearly perfect; and the curious monument within it is in tolerable preservation.

FROME is a large populous market town, agreeably situated on the north-east declivity of a hill, in the forest of Selwood. The town is irregularly built, and the streets narrow and ill-paved; but the situation is pleasant, being upon several abrupt hills. The church is extremely neat and spacious, with a square embattled tower, from which rises an octagonal spire. The other public buildings are five meeting-houses, a free-school for boys, and a handsome alms-house for widows. In this town were formerly a monastery, priory, and nunnery. The inhabitants are chiefly employed in the manufacture of broadcloths and kerseymeres. On the banks of the river Frome are several mills for fulling, rolling of iron, &c.

Market on Wednesday. Fairs, St. Matthias and St. Catherine's Days.

GLASTONBURY, nearly five miles from Wells, in a low marshy country, was first built in the reign of King Ina, about the year 708. It consists of two streets, which have many of their houses entirely built of stones from the abbey. The church of St. John the Baptist is a very neat handsome building; it is surrounded by a fine lofty tower, peculiarly light and beautiful. This church preserves many marks of former embellishments. The Abbey of Glastonbury, perhaps the most famous and opulent in Europe, attracted the veneration of the world, during a period of 15 centuries. Of these immense buildings very little now remain, and what still exists exhibits woeful marks of the effects of time. In the great church, the havoc made is truly deplorable. That mighty fabric, the erection of which must have exhausted a quarry, is now only a heap of ruins. The chapel

of St. Joseph, which stands at the west-end of the great church, is much more entire. In this chapel architectural beauty is carried to its highest pitch. Beneath the ruins of this monastery many kings, nobles, and prelates, were buried; the monuments, however, erected to their memory, are now entirely defaced or demolished. The illustrious Arthur, a royal patriot, having met his death at the fatal battle of Camlan, was brought here, and buried in the front of the high altar, where he reposed, undisturbed, neglected, and unknown, for a period of many ages. The environs of Glastonbury, as well as the town itself, abound with religious monuments.

Market on Tuesday. Fairs, Wednesday in Easter Week, September 19, October 10, and on the Monday se'nnight after St. Andrew's Day. Number of houses, 391; inhabitants, 2,038.

HAMPTON CLIFFS, near Batheaston. These cliffs with the adjacent down, form a richly-clothed eminence, rising in majestic grandeur. The cliffs are upwards of 600 feet above the level of the river, and rise in an almost perpendicular direction. The view from this spot is unusually enchanting and picturesque.

HINTON CHARTER HOUSE, five miles from Bath, is an extensive free-stone building; in this mansion are many excellent pictures. The grounds command extensive views of the valleys of Bradford, Trowbridge and Devizes; and at the distance of half a mile is seen the ruined priory of Hinton, rearing its ivy-clad tower amidst a grove of venerable oaks; it was founded in the reign of Henry III.

ILCHESTER, 10 miles from Castle Cary, a borough and market town, appears to have been a strong fortified place in the time of the Romans, and at the Norman Conquest. The foundations of its walls are still perceivable near the river; upon the bridge, and at its foot, are two dwelling-houses, formerly chapels. The town, at present, consists of four streets, has a neat church and meeting-house. It is a borough by prescription, and is governed by a bailiff and 12 capital burgesses, who, together with about 170 inhabitants, paying scot and lot, return two members to parliament. Here is a good alms-house. On King's Moor horse-races are held.

Market on Wednesday. Fairs, April 18, and September 16. 149 houses, and 924 inhabitants.

ILMINSTER, four miles from Crewkerne, is a market town. The church is a fine Gothic building, ornamented with a handsome quadrangular tower, surmounted by 12 pinnacles. In the centre of the town stands a new-built market-house and shambles. Here is an excellent free grammar-school, founded in 1550, with a good salary and school-house.

Market on Saturday. Fair, last Wednesday in August. 372 houses, and 2,235 inhabitants.

KEYNSHAM, five miles from Bristol, consists chiefly of one street, about one mile in length. This place was formerly considerable for its cloth manufacture; woad is raised here in large quantities, for the purposes of dyeing. The church is a large and handsome building, placed near the centre of the town; the south wall of the chancel has a remarkably large bénitier, with two circular basins, for the reception of holy water.

LANDSDOWN HILL, immediately adjoining Bath, is rendered famous in history, by the battle fought here in 1643, between the royal army under the Marquis of Hertford and Prince Maurice, and the parliamentary forces commanded by Sir William Waller. Among the slain was Sir Bevil Grenville, to whose conduct the success of the royal party, in Cornwall, was chiefly owing. A most superb monument of free-stone was erected to his memory, on the north declivity of the hill, near the spot on which he fell, and near it are remains of a Saxon fortification.

MENDIP HILLS, in the vicinity of the city of Wells, are worthy of observation, on account of their peculiar structure, their excavations, and the richness of their mines. The view of these hills is black and rugged. On the road from Wells to Chedder, they approach and recede in a curious undulating form. Their summits are every where covered with large knolls, or protuberances, and their sides are intersected with enormous fissures, which give them at once a whimsical and terrific appearance.

MILBOURN PORT, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Sherborne, is a borough by prescription, and sends two members to

parliament. The right of election is in the capital bailiffs, and their deputies, in the commonalty stewards, and in the inhabitants paying scot and lot. The church is a good ancient building, and has a large quadrangular tower; here is also a dissenting meeting-house. Fairs, 5 June, and 28 October; containing 198 houses; and 953 inhabitants.

NEMNET, near Keynsham, is worthy of notice on account of a tumulus, or barrow, situated in a field called Fairy Field, at a short distance eastward from the church. This ancient sepulchre is undoubtedly one of the noblest in England.

PRIOR PARK, at Widcombe, near Bathford, was the seat of Ralph Allen, Esq., the friend of Pope. The mansion is a stately and superb building, of Bath-stone, and stands on a terrace. The style is Corinthian, raised on a rustic basement, and surmounted by a balustrade. Fielding, laid the scene of the early years of Tom Jones at this place, and Mr. Allen was the All-worthy of his novel.

SHARPHAM PARK, near Glastonbury, is famous in the annals of literature, as the birth-place of Henry Fielding, one of the most celebrated of English writers, in the line of wit and humour.

SHEPTON-MALLET, is a market-town, 10 miles from Frome. It contains about 20 narrow and dirty streets and lanes, and has for many years carried on an extensive manufacture of knit stockings, and various kinds of woollen goods; it is a very populous parish, and the church is a large and handsome edifice, in the form of a cross; the market-cross is a very curious structure, consisting of five arches, supported by pentagonal columns: besides its church of the establishment, it has several meeting-houses.

Market on Friday; fair 8th August; number of houses 1,105; inhabitants 5,104.

SOMERTON, four miles from Langport, is a small market-town and borough. The scenery around it is peculiarly beautiful; cultivated hills are here finely interspersed with rich and luxuriant valleys. The soil is dry, but extremely fertile. This town has been the residence of royalty: Ina and several other West Saxon

monarchs, held their courts here; John, king of France, was confined in the castle of Somerton, after his removal from that of Hertford. The church is an ancient building; at the south end of it is an octangular embattled tower; near the church is an excellent free-school, and here is a well endowed alms-house for eight poor women. In the centre of the town stands a hall, for holding petty sessions. Somerton is governed by a bailiff, and constables, elected annually by the inhabitants.

Market on Tuesday; fairs, Tuesday in Passion-week, and the 3rd, 6th, and 9th Tuesday afterwards; number of houses 246; inhabitants 1,145.

TAUNTON, a borough and market-town, 47 miles from Bristol, consists of four principal streets and is nearly a mile in length. The houses are well built and the street wide and clean. The church of St. James is a strong plain ancient structure, with a square tower; that of St. Mary Magdalen is a very elegant and splendid building, having a lofty tower, of truly magnificent workmanship, with 13 windows in it. Here are several meeting-houses, a well endowed grammar-school, an hospital, and alms-houses. This town has a considerable manufacture of silks, and a good trade to Bridgewater by the Tone. It is an ancient borough by prescription, and sends two members to parliament, who are elected by such of the inhabitants as are potwollers, and do not receive alms or charity; the number is reckoned to be about 500. The corporation consists of a mayor, recorder, a justice of peace, two aldermen, and 24 capital burgesses, a town-clerk, two serjeants at mace, &c. It is a curious fact, that the officers of this borough have no power to arrest.

Markets, Wednesday and Saturday; fairs 17 June, and 7 July; houses 1,210; inhabitants 7,109.

WELLS, 15 miles from Bath, though far inferior to that celebrated city, in splendour of appearance and fashionable society, has considerable claims to attention, and possesses many charms for the lover of social retirement. This city, though small, is populous, and generally well laid out; the streets are clean and commodious, the buildings for the most part neat, and not unfrequently elegant. Its noble cathedral, and St. Cuth-

bert's church, with their rising towers, give it an air of dignity and grandeur. The market-place is wide and airy. The city conduit is a handsome structure of a hexagonal shape, embellished with Gothic niches, roses, &c., and crowned with a conical roof. The cathedral has always been considered one of the most splendid specimens of ecclesiastical architecture in England. The truly elegant chapel of the Blessed Mary is ornamented with Gothic windows of the most beautiful and delicate workmanship; the west front is remarkable fine. On the south side of the cathedral is the cloister, reckoned a handsome building; a short distance from the cathedral stands the Bishop's palace, a noble old building, of an august and venerable appearance. St. Cuthbert's church is a handsome building, in the florid Gothic style, surrounded by a lofty square tower. Near it are two alms-houses, besides an hospital; there is also in this city a charity-school for 40 boys and girls, erected in 1714.

Market on Wednesday and Saturday; fairs, 14 May, 25 July, 25 October, and 30 November; number of houses 942; inhabitants 5,159.

WESTON ZOYLAND, five miles from Bridgewater: adjoining to this village, on a spot called Penny Pound, General Fairfax drew up his army after the battle of Langport. Here also the Duke of Monmouth engaged the King's forces, under the Earl of Feversham, and was defeated, with considerable loss.

YEOVIL, four miles from Ilchester, is a borough, and large market-town, and is governed by a portreeve, 11 burgesses, a mace bearer, and constables. The town is very ancient, consisting of upwards of 20 streets and lanes; some of the former are wide and open; the houses are in general good, and many of them built of stone. It has an alms-house for one master, two wardens, and 12 poor people of either sex. The church is a handsome old Gothic structure, having a large plain tower, 90 feet high, with a stone balustrade at the top. Here are several meeting-houses. The country around this town is beautifully diversified with hill and dale in a state of high cultivation.

Market on Friday; fairs, 28 June, and 17 November; number of houses 811; inhabitants 3,128.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

Length 35 miles. Breadth 42. Circumference 220. Square miles 1,196. Square acres 765,440. Hundreds 5. Market towns 19. Parishes 132. Houses 57,040. Persons 304,400.—Diocese of Lichfield and Coventry. Oxford Circuit.—Members to Parliament 10.—Militia-men 560.

BOUNDARIES.—Staffordshire, an inland county, lying nearly in the centre of the kingdom, is a long and narrow tract, bounded on the north by Cheshire and Derbyshire; on the east, by Leicestershire; on the west, by Shropshire; and, on the south, by Warwickshire and Worcestershire. The aspect of this county varies in different districts; the middle and south portions are generally level, or only interspersed with gentle eminences. The northern division is quite of an opposite character to that on the south. Here the surface of the country is, for the most part, bleak and hilly, but only a few of the eminences rise to any remarkable height. The climate of this county rather inclines to wet. The air is generally good, but in the southern part extremely sharp. Salt-springs are found in various places; the most important are situated in the parish of Weston. The salt produced from them is as white and good as any in England. Here are also a few sulphurous springs; that near Codsall was formerly famous for the cure of leprosies. St. Erasmus's Well, between Ingestre and Stafford, has similar properties. This county still continues well stocked with wood of every description, and the extent of lands lying in a state of nature is very great; many thousand acres in different places remaining wholly uncultivated, merely as pasturage for a few sheep or deer. The public roads of Staffordshire are, in general, good; but many of the private ones are very indifferent. The bridges, tunnels, and other works of that kind, are sufficiently plentiful, and in numerous instances do great honour to the county.

SOIL.—This county exhibits as much variety of soils as any in England of proportionate extent. The arable soils may, in general, be divided into the stiff and strong

clay, the loose and light sand, lime-earth, and mixed loam. The meadow grounds, which, for the most part, lie in the vicinity of the canals and rivers, usually partake of the nature of the arable soils in their neighbourhood; in some particular spots, peat-earth forms the soil in the meadow ground. This species of earth consists principally of the decayed roots of aquatic vegetables. When properly drained, consolidated, and meliorated, this kind of soil becomes valuable pasture and meadow land.

MINERALS.—The mineral productions of Staffordshire are numerous and valuable. Upwards of 50,000 acres contain an almost inexhaustible store of coal, near enough the surface of the ground to be easily raised. A very singular species, called the peacock coal, from the prismatic colours it exhibits, is dug up at Handley Green. Lime-stone is still more abundant than coal in some places. This mineral exists in such immense profusion, that the greatest consumption or length of time would make but little difference in its appearance. Iron ore is met with plentifully in every portion of the coal district. In the neighbourhood of Wednesbury, Tipton, Bilston, and Sedgeley, and also west from Newcastle, it is particularly abundant, and of an excellent kind. The quarries in different districts afford very good free-stone for a variety of purposes. Alabaster was formerly dug up in considerable quantities, particularly on the banks of the river Dove. At present very few of the quarries producing this species of stone are wrought, though it still exists in great plenty. Marble, of various kinds, is likewise a production of this county; that species which is denominated rance-marble is very abundant on Yelpersly Tor and the adjoining hills. Clays of every description are abundant.

AGRICULTURE.—The farms in Staffordshire are of all sizes, from 20 acres to 500. The greater proportion are held upon leases for 21 years. A few in the neighbourhood of gentlemen's seats are rented only from year to year. A considerable part of this county has been exonerated from tithes by purchase; but a far greater proportion still continues liable to that heavy and impolitic tax upon the efforts and exertions of human industry. The cultivated lands of this county are nearly all enclosed, not more

than 1,000 acres still remaining open. The fences in the southern parts are chiefly raised from quicksets. Upon the strong land inclining to clay, it seldom happens that any other grain except wheat and oats is grown. The course of husbandry on the more mild and friable loamy soils is fallow, wheat, beans or peas, barley or oats, when the land is laid down with clover, &c. On the light sandy and gravelly soils, adapted to turnips, the order of cropping is the same with the Norfolk system. The hay harvest in this county is mostly in July. On highly-forced lands in the neighbourhood of large towns, the meadow grass is somewhat earlier than the artificial grasses; but upon regular farms the latter generally takes the precedence. Many gentlemen, as well as farmers, feed a considerable number of cattle and sheep. The cattle of this county are generally of the long-horned breed; and the sheep are of various kinds. Although kitchen vegetables are very abundant in this county, there is a deficiency of fruit.

MANUFACTURES of various kinds are carried on to a great extent in this county, particularly in the southern districts. These chiefly consist in hard-ware articles, nails, glass toys, japanned goods, and potter's ware, with productions in cotton, silk, leather, woollen, and linen. The manufacture of glass is most considerable in the vicinity of Stourbridge. The potteries are situated rather towards the north division of the county, occupying an extent of 10 miles. Formerly the quantity of goods made at these potteries was prodigious. The cotton manufactures at Rochester, Fazeley, Tamworth, Burton, and Tetbury, are very considerable; so likewise is the silk trade of Leek, and the tape manufactures of Cheadle and Teyn. The woollen manufactory is comparatively trifling.

RIVERS.—Staffordshire is plentifully watered by rivers, characterized by very peculiar and interesting features. Although the SEVERN in its circuitous course, from Plinlimmon to the Bristol channel, flows through the parish of Over Arley, it cannot be correctly considered one of the Staffordshire rivers.

The TRENT, therefore, which springs from Newpool, is generally esteemed the principal river of Staffordshire; near Oatlanes it meets with some of the numerous canals

which abound in every part of the county, and passing the town of Stone, it flows on through an agreeable valley diversified with a variety of elegant parks and villas; continuing its progress, it is intersected by canals, carried over it by means of very noble aqueducts; afterwards it forms the boundary between this county and Derbyshire, till its junction with the river Dove.

The DOVE takes its rise among the hills in the moorlands; generally speaking, its scenery is not less romantic than that of any river in England. Not far from its source it flows through the beautifully sequestered dell of Dovedale. Emerging from its hollow bed, under the pyramidical mountain Thorpe Cloud, it receives the Manifold: increased by the accession of this river and the Hamps, the Dove passes near Ashbourne; thence it meanders through a narrow valley, agreeably diversified by a variety of elegant seats and hamlets, and is increased by the Churnet; as it approaches Sudbury, it is enveloped by the wild-wooded hills of Needwood forest, and meandering round the base of the hill, crowned with the ruins of Tutbury castle, it soon after falls into the Trent.

The TAME springs from several sources in the vicinity of Walsall and Coleshill, and enters Warwickshire near Ashton, and at Tamwor again enters Staffordshire; its junction with the Trent takes place at the point where the river reaches the confines of Derbyshire.

The BLYTHE rises in the neighbourhood of Watley moor; its line of direction is nearly parallel to the Trent, and it falls into that river near King's Bromley.

The Sow from Eccleshall, and the PEUK, from the vicinity of Somerford, forming a junction below Stafford, proceed together to Tixhall, where they precipitate themselves into the Trent.

The other rivers deserving notice are, the STOUR and the DANE. The former rises in Warwickshire, the latter has its origin from the source of the Dove; but flowing in an opposite direction, becomes the boundary between this county and Cheshire for upwards of 10 miles.

CANALS.—The deficiency of navigable rivers in Staffordshire, is amply counterbalanced by the number and extent of its canals.

The GRAND TRUNK CANAL, unites the three ports of

Bristol, Liverpool and Hull. After crossing Cheshire, it enters this county near Lawton; from this place it proceeds by Newcastle, Stone, Weston, &c., into the Trent at Wilden. This canal generally follows a course parallel to that river, which intersects at different points. The whole extent of the main trunk is 91 miles.

The BIRMINGHAM CANAL begins at Birmingham, and proceeds to Wilden Green and Smethwick, by Blue Gates, West Bromwich, Oldbury, Church-lane, Tipton, and Bilston, through Wolverhampton, and thence into the Stafford and Worcester canal, being altogether a course of 22 miles.

Sir NIGEL GRESLEY'S CANAL extends from the Grand Trunk, at Newcastle-Under-Line, to the coal mines in Apedale. At Hudlesford a branch has been extended from the Coventry canal, by Brown-hills, over Cannock-heath, to join the Wirley and Essington canal.

The DUDLEY EXTENSION CANAL runs off from the Dudley canal, near Netherton, and passes through Comes Wood by Hales Owen, at the foot of the Leasowes.

Remarkable Places.

BEACON HILL, situated between Hopton Heath and the town of Stafford, is distinguished by a vast collection of rocks on its summit. The sides of this eminence are covered with grass, and are of very steep ascent. Upon St. Amon's Heath, under this hill, a smart action was fought between a party of royalists and a detachment of the parliamentary troops, in 1643.

BEAUDESERT, five miles from Lichfield, the seat of the Marquis of Anglesea, is situated on the declivity of a lofty sloping eminence, sheltered above by beautiful rising grounds, and wholly enveloped in trees of the finest and most luxuriant growth. The exterior appearance of the house is very magnificent. This parish produces a great supply of coal; a certain species of this mineral, termed cannel coal, is found in considerable abundance, and on account of the fine polish it takes, is used in making a variety of articles, both useful and ornamental.

BENTLEY HALL, near Darlaston, is remarkable for having been the property of Colonel Lane, who, together with his sister, so much distinguished themselves in con-

cealing and effecting the escape of King Charles II., after his defeat at the decisive battle of Worcester.

BLITHFIELD, two miles from Abbots Bromley. Here is an ancient mansion. The park, which lies at some distance from the house, is covered with a profusion of large oaks, and displays some very beautiful and picturesque scenery. This mansion contains a splendid collection of paintings, many of which are executed in the first style, and by the ablest masters.

BRADLEY, three miles from Penkridge, possesses a very extraordinary phenomenon. A fire in the earth has now continued burning for upwards of 40 years, defeating every attempt that has been made to extinguish it. This fire has already reduced nearly six acres of land to a mere calx. The surface is sometimes covered with sulphur for many yards, in such quantities as to be easily gathered.

BURSLEM, two miles from Newcastle, finely situated on a gentle eminence, is a large and populous town. The church is an ancient structure, with a massive square tower at one end. There is also a meeting-house. The town stands near the Trent and Mersey canal, which about a mile from hence passes by a tunnel under ground for the length of 1,888 yards. Here is a neat market-place; and nearly all the inhabitants are employed in trade and manufactures, but principally in its extensive potteries.

Market on Monday and Saturday; fairs, 22d March, 28th June, and 17th October. Number of houses 1,713; inhabitants 8,625.

BURTON-UPON-TRENT is a borough and market town, of very great antiquity. The abbey was founded and endowed by Wulfric, Earl of Mercia, about the year 1002. Of this immense structure only a few remains of any importance can now be traced. Among these are the vestiges of the cloisters visible in the old walls, between the present church and the bowling green. On this wall are a number of Saxon ornaments. The town consists of one principal street, which runs parallel to the river, and another cutting it at right angles. The town-hall is a neat spacious structure; here all public meetings are held. Not far from hence is a very remarkable old house, adorned with a number of wooden pillars, on which a variety of curious Gothic ornaments are cut. The free-

grammar-school is a very respectable institution. The church is a neat edifice, with a fine tower, built in 1720. The most entire and remarkable object in this town, deriving its origin from antiquity, is its bridge, one of the noblest fabrics of the kind in England. The chief production of Burton is its ale, which is well known, and deservedly celebrated. A curious manufactory of screws has been long established here. Hats and cottons are likewise among the more considerable articles made in this town.

Market on Thursday; fairs, Candlemas day, April 5th, Ascension-day, 29th October, and five days following. Number of houses 975; inhabitants 4,851.

BUSHBURY, two miles and a half from Wolverhampton. At this place may be seen the chair in which Charles II. sat when here, during the period of his concealment in this county.

CHARTLEY CASTLE, three miles from Stafford, is remarkable for having been the residence of Mary queen of Scots, during her unjust detention as a prisoner, by the haughty and jealous Elizabeth. The whole of the ancient edifice was destroyed by fire in 1781, so that little remains to mark its site but the moat by which it was surrounded.

CHEADLE, nine miles and a half from Uttoxeter, is pleasantly situated in a vale, but is surrounded on all sides by bleak and almost barren hills, abounding in coal mines of considerable value. The church is an ancient structure. The trade consists for the most part of copper, brass, and tin works. There are also a free-school, and meeting-houses.

Market on Friday; fairs, Lady-day, Holy Thursday, 21st August, and 18th of October. Number of houses 642; inhabitants 3,191.

CODSALL, five miles from Wolverhampton, deserves to be noticed, on account of the beauty of its church. The roof is of wood, carved in a most curious and elegant manner. A sulphureous well, in this parish, springs up in a very uncommon manner, through the old stump of a tree. Anciently this well was famed for the cure of leprosy.

DUDLEY CASTLE. This noble work of antiquity is

situated on the summit of a lime-stone hill, three miles south of Wednesbury-Trim. From the lofty site of this castle, the view from its ruins is noble and extensive, comprehending five counties in England, and a great part of Wales, The mansion consists of a number of buildings surrounding a court, and encompassed by an exterior wall, flanked with towers. In the kitchen, which is situated on the eastern division, are two chimney-pieces, of monstrous size; the fire-places in one of them measuring no less than four yards and a half in width. The greater portion of the castle is a complete ruin, but some part of it has been repaired within these few years.

ECCLESHALL, five miles from Stone, is pleasantly situated, and has an extremely neat appearance, the houses being in general well built, and disposed with considerable regularity. It is distinguished principally for its castle, which, founded at a very early period, was completely rebuilt in 1310, and in 1695 the whole south front was renewed. It has a good church, and charity-school.

Market on Friday; fairs, Mid-Lent Thursday, Holy Thursday, August 16th, and the first Friday in November. Number of houses, 710; inhabitants, 3,618.

ENVILLE, lying to the north of Kimver, is principally distinguished by the noble mansion of the Earl of Stafford. The house, though the greater portion of it is of modern erection, still retains much of the air of antiquity. In front of this mansion extends a beautiful sloping lawn. Shenstone originally designed the whole of this delightful scenery.

ETRURIA is situated near Handley, one mile from Newcastle-under-Line, and has been long celebrated as the residence of Mr. Wedgwood, whose name has been given to a superior kind of earthenware, first manufactured under his direction.

GREAT BARR, near Sutton Coldfield. Here is one of the finest and most delightful mansions in this part of the county; it stands in a beautiful vale, surrounded by a noble lawn, and ornamented with trees in great variety and abundance. A charming sheet of water winds along in front. The chapel of Great Barr, founded by Mrs. Bromwich, is remarkable for its beauty and elegance. At one end it is adorned by a very handsome spire,

and the interior is fitted up in the most refined modern taste.

HAM exhibits one of the most solemn and romantic pieces of picturesque scenery in the whole county, or perhaps in any other part of Great Britain. The seat of Mr. Clive suggests the idea of a glen in the Alps. Here the two rivers, the Hamps and Manifold, rise from under the lime-stone hills, under which they run for several miles in separate streams. These subterraneous rivers, after bursting up here, form two very fine cascades. Ham parish is also noted for the tomb, well, and ash, of St. Bertram, who is said to have confirmed the truth of his religious faith by many stupendous miracles in this county. In a grotto near this place the celebrated Congreve wrote his first and best comedy of the Old Bachelor.

LEEK, 13 miles from Macclesfield, has of late years considerably increased in its trade and manufactures of sewing silks, twist, buttons, ribbons, silk ferrets, shawls, silk handkerchiefs, and cottons. The church has a square tower; and at the south-east corner of the chancel stand the remains of a pyramidical cross, ten feet high; here are several meeting-houses. By the intervention of one of the craggy mountains westward of the town, the sun sets twice the same evening at a certain time of the year; for after it sets behind the top of the mountain, it breaks out again on the northern side of it, which is steep, before it reaches the horizon in its fall; so that within a very few miles the inhabitants have the rising sun, when he has, in fact, passed his meridian, as at Narrowdale; and the setting sun twice in the space of a very few hours, as here at Leek.

Market-day Wednesday. Fairs, February 10, March 30, May 18, July 4, October 12, and November 14. Number of houses, 967; inhabitants, 4,413.

LICHFIELD, 119 miles from London, is governed by a recorder, sheriff, high steward, two bailiffs, a town clerk, and coroner, and is situated in a healthful, agreeable, and fine valley, nearly in the centre of England. The houses are in general modern, and for the most part occupied by gentry, and persons of small independent fortunes. The cathedral church is an object of just veneration, and one of the noblest religious fabrics in this

country. The interior of this noble edifice fully answers to the splendour and magnificence of its external structure. The entrances both on the south and north sides are very elegant, particularly the north door, which is extremely rich in sculptured mouldings. The members of this cathedral are a bishop, dean, precentor, chancellor, treasurer, four archdeacons, and 27 prebendaries, besides 5 priest-vicars, 7 lay-clerks or singing men, choristers, and inferior officers. The bishop's palace is situated at the north-east corner of the close. The bishops, however, having fixed their residence for many years at Eccleshall castle, this palace is generally occupied by tenants; it has long been inhabited by the family of the late celebrated Miss Seward, whose ingenious poetical productions are well known to every reader of taste. The church of St. Mary, situated in the central part of the town, in exterior architecture is sufficiently neat, and the inside is fitted up with oak pews, and adorned with a spacious gallery. The market-house, a light building of brick, is placed at a little distance from this edifice. The guildhall is a neat stone edifice, adorned with the city arms, an escutcheon with dead bodies slain, and a basso relievo of the cathedral. The theatre is a small building with a stucco front, erected in 1790. In the free grammar-school, founded by King Edward VI., some of the greatest men, whose names throw a lustre on the literary annals of the last century, received the rudiments of their education. The parish of St. Chad, lying to the south-east of Lichfield, occupies a considerable portion of the city and its suburbs. The church is of very ancient erection, being originally founded at a period long prior to the date of the cathedral. The church of St. Michael's, situated on the mount called Greenhill, is particularly remarkable for the extent of its cemetery, which contains no less than seven acres of ground; it is an old fabric with a lofty spire, probably erected in the reign of Henry VII. Among the many distinguished characters, natives of Lichfield, the most eminent was Dr. Samuel Johnson, who was born on the 7th of September, 1709. This town has sent two members to parliament since the 33d Edward I.; the right of election being in the bailiff, magistrate, freeholders of 40s.

a year, the holders of burgage tenures, and in such freemen as are enrolled and pay scot and lot; the number of voters is about 620.

Market-days, Tuesday and Friday. Fairs, the three first Thursdays after Twelfth Day; Ash Wednesday, May 1, and the Friday before St. Simon and St. Jude. Number of houses, 1,033; inhabitants, 5,022.

MAER, or MERE, near Muccleston, derives its name from an extensive lake. No spot in England, perhaps, is more prolific of Saxon antiquities than this parish. The fortress of Bruff, or Burgh, is a remarkable monument of this kind. It is composed of a double trench and rampire, chiefly of stone. It was constructed by Kenred, king of Mercia, as a protection against the invasion of Osrid, the licentious king of Northumberland, who was slain in a battle fought in this neighbourhood.

NEEDWOOD FOREST, near Uttoxeter, a most beautiful and interesting spot, extends from the confines of Hanbury to Yoxal, near the river Trent. According to a survey made in the year 1765, it consists of 9,920 acres of one of the finest soils in the kingdom, which till lately remained wholly unenclosed. The venerable Swilcar, a tree of immense size and majestic appearance, is situated in an open lawn, surrounded by extensive woods, and is supposed to have stood upwards of 600 years.

NEWCASTLE UNDER LINE, nine miles from Stone, a borough and market town, sends two members to parliament, who are elected by the freemen residing in the borough. The government is vested in a mayor, two justices, two bailiffs, and 24 common-councilmen. Its situation is extremely pleasant, and the houses display considerable neatness of architecture and uniformity of arrangement. The principal street, in particular, is spacious and well paved. It has one church, with a square embattled tower, containing a chime of eight bells, several meeting-houses and 20 alms-houses for poor women. There is a greater quantity of stone and earthenware manufactured about this place than in any other part of England; very large portions of it are exported.

Market on Monday. Fairs, Easter Monday, Whit

Monday, July 8, first Monday in September, and November 6. Number of houses, 1,344; of inhabitants, 6,175.

PENKRIDGE, 5½ miles from Stafford, a market-town of very great antiquity, carries on a considerable trade in iron works. The church is an old building, with a square tower. Here is an excellent charity school.

Market on Tuesday. Fairs, 30th April, and 10th October, which is universally allowed to be one of the first in England, both for saddle and draught horses. Number of houses, 453, and inhabitants, 2,243.

RIDWARE HAMSTAL, near Yoxall. Near the church is the manor-house, an extensive edifice, formerly fitted-up in a style of great splendour and magnificence. In this house, a curious stone hammer, dug up in the neighbourhood, is preserved, as are likewise a coat of mail, provided for King Charles in the time of the rebellion, and a curious iron cage, in which the heads of scolding women were placed, to enforce silence.

RUGELEY, seven miles from Lichfield, situated on the north-east of Cannock Chase, a well-built market town, with many handsome houses in it, carries on a considerable traffic, being situated on the banks of the Staffordshire canal, which forms a chain of communication with most of the principal rivers of the kingdom. The church is an ancient building, at the west end of which rises a handsome tower. It is under the government of two constables, chosen by the inhabitants every year. Many handsome seats adorn the neighbourhood of this town.

Market on Tuesday. Fairs, 5th June, and 20th October. Number of houses, 473. Inhabitants, 2,213.

SANDWELL PARK, five miles from Wolverhampton, the seat of Earl Dartmouth, is situated in a romantic valley. The present edifice is built of brick stuccoed white. The interior contains many valuable paintings, and in front extends a charming lawn, laid out with the highest degree of taste and judgment.

SOHO, near Church Eaton. The manufactory belonging to Messrs. Boulton and Watt is justly esteemed the first of its kind in Europe, whether we regard the

value of its productions, or the extent and grandeur of the building in which it is carried on. At the commencement of this great manufactory, its productions were only buttons, buckles, watch-chains, trinkets, and articles of a similar description. In a short time, however, the manufacture of plated wares on a large scale was likewise introduced: and, at last, works of elegance and grandeur, in stone bronze, and or-molu. The house, which stands at a short distance from the manufactory, is an elegant mansion, surrounded by beautiful pleasure grounds. Near Soho are the works of Mr. Egginton, who has restored the art of painting on glass with a glow of colouring equal to the ancients, and far superior to them in point of execution.

STAFFORD, 16 miles from Lichfield, the county-town of Staffordshire, though situated low, is extremely pleasant. The streets are well paved, and the houses for the most part built of stone, in a regular and compact manner. This borough has sent two members to parliament since the 23d year of the reign of Edward I. The right of election is vested in the inhabitants paying scot and lot, and the return is made by the mayor. The number of voters is about 490. Sons of burgesses, and persons who have served an apprenticeship of seven years, within the borough, are entitled to admission as burgesses. The county-hall, situated near the centre of the town, is a very spacious and neat modern edifice. The county infirmary, in the fore-gate, is a plain respectable building. The county gaol, situated almost directly opposite to this hospital, is an extensive edifice of modern erection, containing about 150 separate cells or apartments for prisoners. Its regulations and internal economy are excellent. The free-school is an ancient building, founded by Edward VI., in 1550. Here are 12 alms-houses, appropriated for the occupation of a certain number of aged and necessitous poor. St. Mary's church is a large building, in the centre of which rises an octagonal tower, 33 feet square at the base. The other church of Stafford, dedicated to St. Chad, is a very old structure, with a tower in the latest pointed style. Here are also several establishments appropriated to dissenters. The chief trade car-

ried on here is the manufacture of shoes and boots. Here is also a considerable traffic by means of the canal communicating with all the neighbouring counties.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, 10th February, 14th May, 27th June, 16th September, 2nd October, and 4th December. The number of houses, 885, and of inhabitants, 4,868.

STONE, seven miles from Stafford, a market town, principally consists of one good street, with a new market place. The church is a new erection, neat in its architecture, but its tower, which is square, is low. It has a free grammar and charity school, and an excellent endowment for the support of poor widows.

Market on Tuesday. Fairs, Shrove Tuesday, Tuesday after Midlent, Whit Tuesday, and July 25th. Number of houses, 463. Inhabitants, 2,314.

STOURTON CASTLE, at Kinver, is situated on the west bank of the river Stour. The celebrated Reginald Pole, archbishop of Canterbury, and a cardinal, was born in this castle in the year 1500.

TAMWORTH, 8½ miles from Lichfield, is a large and well-built incorporated town; its situation is uncommonly fine, being on all sides surrounded by rich and luxuriant meadows, through which the Tame and Anker glide in the most picturesque manner. The church is a very spacious ancient building, surmounted by a massive tower, and contains several curious antique and modern monuments. It has an hospital founded and endowed by Mr. Guy, the rich bookseller. The grammar school, founded by Queen Elizabeth, is an excellent and flourishing institution. The town is governed by two bailiffs, 24 burgesses, town clerk, with a high steward, recorder, and under steward, and carries on a variety of manufactures. It sends two members to parliament: the returning officers are the bailiffs. The voters, about 250. The printing of calicos and tammy are rising branches of trade, and the ale breweries are great sources of wealth to the inhabitants.

Market on Tuesday. Fairs, 4th May, 26th July, and 24th October. Number of houses in the western part of the town, situated in Warwickshire, 324, and 1,664 inhabitants; and in the eastern part, in Staffordshire, 279

houses, with 1,327 inhabitants: together, 603 houses, and 2,991 inhabitants.

TRENTHAM, three miles from Newcastle-under-Line, derives its name from the river Trent, and gives title to the Marquis of Stafford, whose noble seat here is one of the finest in the county. The house is of modern erection, and built after the model of the queen's palace, in St. James's Park. The enclosures which surround this mansion are very extensive, and finely variegated by umbrageous foliage, and extensive sheets of water. The higher grounds command extensive views.

TUTBURY. This celebrated place lies about four miles from Burton upon Trent; it was erected into a free borough, at an early period, by some of the royal personages who occupied its once magnificent Castle. Woolcombing, and a cotton manufactory, afford employment to the inhabitants. This town has an excellent free-school, and a meeting-house. The castle, than which there is scarcely one more famous in England, was built by Henry de Ferrars, a noble Norman, to whom William I. gave fine estates in this county: being afterwards allowed to fall into decay, John of Gaunt rebuilt the greater part of it upon the ancient site in 1350. This castle being the principal seat of the Dukes of Lancaster, was long distinguished as the scene of much festivity and splendour. Mary Queen of Scots was confined some time within the walls of this celebrated edifice. James II., paid a visit to it, during his memorable tour through England. The few remains of this castle which still exist, are alone sufficient to indicate its former extent and grandeur; it has been built chiefly of hewn free-stone, with admixtures of gypsum, and stands on an alabaster hill of considerable elevation, commanding a very fine and varied prospect.

Market on Tuesday; fairs, February 14, August 15, and December 1; number of houses, 242; inhabitants, 1,235.

The VALE OF SHUGBOROUGH, varied with almost every thing that nature and art could give, to render it delicious, is watered by the Trent and Sow. Here is the seat of the late Lord Anson: of the great number of statues which embellish this place, an Adonis

and Thalia are pre-eminent. There is also a very fine figure of Trajan, in the attitude of haranguing his army. Opposite to the back-front of the house, on the banks of the Sow, stand the small remains of the ancient mansion, which still serve to give the appearance of reality and ruin to some beautiful Grecian columns, and other fragments of ancient architecture, which were added to the front. The greatest honour to the place, is the circumstance of its having been the birth place of one of the most distinguished naval commanders and circumnavigators, Lord Anson, whose voyages have made a conspicuous figure in every truly valuable collection.

UTTOXETER, 14 miles from Stafford, a market-town, is a place of very great antiquity; a noble bridge is here thrown over the river Dove, connecting the two counties of Stafford and Derby. This is a large and well-built town, and has a fine open market-place in the centre, with three streets branching from it. The extensive meadow and pasture lands in the neighbourhood, are justly esteemed among the most fertile and luxuriant England can boast. Its vicinity abounds with iron forges, and its trade has been greatly increased by means of inland navigation. Its lofty situation renders it extremely favourable to health, and the town is remarkable for the longevity of its inhabitants. The church is an ancient edifice, with a lofty steeple; here are also several meeting-houses, and a free-school.

Market on Wednesday; fairs, 6th May, 31st July, 1st and 29th September; number of houses, 637; inhabitants, 3,155.

WALSALL, nine miles from Lichfield, an ancient market-town and borough, situated on a pleasing eminence, is governed by a mayor, a recorder, 24 aldermen, or capital burgesses, a town clerk, two sergeants at mace, &c.; but does not send any members to parliament, although a corporation. It consists of 12 large and regular streets, and has a very considerable manufacture of buckles, chapes, snaffles, bridle-bits, spurs, stirrups, and in general of all hardware employed in saddlery. The church is an edifice of great antiquity, in the form of a cross, with a strong plain and rather

elegant octagonal tower; it has besides several meeting-houses, and an excellent free grammar-school, founded by Queen Elizabeth.

Market on Tuesday; fairs, 24 February, Whit-Tuesday, and the Tuesday before Michaelmas-day; number of houses, 2,249; inhabitants, 11,020.

WEDNESBURY, seven miles from Birmingham, a considerable market-town, of great antiquity, is distinguished for its numerous and valuable manufactures, the principal of which are guns, coach-harness, iron axle-trees, saws, trowels, edge tools, bridle-bits, stirrups, nails, hinges, woodscrews, and cast-iron works of every description. Enamel paintings in the finest style of execution are likewise among its more prominent productions. The abundance and superior quality of the coal obtained here, tend much to the proficiency of the different branches of manufacture, being, beyond all doubt, the best in the kingdom for the smith's forge. Here is also found that peculiar species of iron ore denominated blond metal. Some spots likewise abound with a red-earth employed in painting or glazing vessels, known by the appellation of Hip. The church is an elegant Gothic structure, in the pointed style of architecture, supposed to be built in the eighth century; at one end rises a handsome tower, supporting a lofty spire of unusual beauty. There are also several meeting-houses.

Market on Wednesday; number of houses, 1,004; inhabitants, 5.372.

WEDNESFIELD, two miles from Wolverhampton, is remarkable as the scene of an engagement between Edward the Elder, and the Danes, in which the latter were overthrown, with immense slaughter. The number and extent of tumuli to be seen here, are decisive monuments of this important victory.

WOLVERHAMPTON, 14 miles from Birmingham, by far the most extensive aud populous town in Staffordshire, is a place of great antiquity, well built, healthy and on a lofty situation. The trade which it carries on in locks, keys, and similar articles, is truly astonishing; nothing can exceed the ingenuity of its locksmiths. The manufacture of enamelled goods is also very consi-

derable, as well as several others. No parish perhaps in South Britain is of greater extent; it contains 17 very considerable villages and townships. The Staffordshire and Worcestershire grand trunk, and the Birmingham canal form a junction about a mile to the north. It has two churches; St. Peter's collegiate church, is very finely situated on elevated ground, and has a lofty Gothic tower, embellished with battlements, and richly ornamented: the nave is supported by five pointed arches, resting on octagonal pillars. The pulpit, which is composed of stone, is an object of great interest and curiosity. St. John's church, built by subscription, and finished in a plain neat manner of stone, is pewed and painted according to the taste of modern times. There are a number of meeting-houses; the free-school is a handsome brick building, besides which, there are two charity-schools, an hospital for a priest and six old women, and a workhouse. The limits between the township and the parish are determined by a number of large trees, denominated gospel trees, from the gospel being read under them, on perambulating the boundaries. Every part of this vicinity is covered with gardens, and on directing the eye to any considerable distance, the county presents a scene sufficiently indicative of its agricultural prosperity.

Market days, Wednesday and Saturday; fair the 10 July; number of houses, 2,936; inhabitants, 14,836.

WROTTESLEY, near Wolverhampton, a village in this parish, is distinguished by some very extensive remains of antiquity, the ruins of an ancient city.

SUFFOLK.

Length 58 miles. Breadth 28. Square miles 1,566. Square acres 1,002,240. Hundreds 21. Market towns 29. Parishes 508. Houses 38,006. Persons 242,900.—Diocese of Norwich.—Norfolk Circuit.—Members to Parliament 16.—Militia-men 960.

BOUNDARIES.—This county is bounded on the north by Norfolk, on the west by Cambridgeshire, on the south by Essex, and on the east by the German ocean. The climate is particularly dry, and, upon the whole, may be considered favourable, though the frosts are severe, and the north-east winds very sharp in spring. The roads in every part of this county are excellent; and many of those, repaired solely at the expense of the respective parishes, are equal to turnpike roads. The waste lands amount to nearly 100,000 acres, comprehended under the terms sheep-walk, common, warren, &c. The landed property is beneficially divided. The largest estate is supposed not to exceed 8,500*l.* per annum: there are three or four which exceed 5,000*l.*, and about 30 of 3,000*l.* and upwards: under this amount there are many of all sizes. The buildings are much improved, but there are still too many, consisting of lath and plaster; and the cottages are in general very indifferent. Those admirable institutions, benefit clubs, flourish considerably in this county, amounting to above 200.

The SOIL of this county is remarkably varied: the prevailing is a strong loam on a clay marl bottom, extending from the south-west extremity of the county to North Core, near Beccles: in this space, the vales descending to rivers, are of a superior quality, being generally rich friable loams. The maritime district is sandy, inclining towards the north to loamy sands, and, in other places, to sandy loams; the inferior stratum generally consists of sand, chalk, or crag, and, in some places, marl and loam. The north-west angle of the county, excepting the space between Brandon and the confluence of the Ouse and the Lark, is sandy; and is employed for sheep-

walks and warrens. Some parts of it are interspersed with loamy sand, and arable land. The substratum of the whole is chalk, found at different depths. The fen district adjoining the above is common peat bog, with a substratum of white clay or marl.

AGRICULTURE.—The greater part of this county is arable land, though the dairy district is extensive, and the sheep numerous. The avoidance of spring ploughings, is an improvement which till lately was almost entirely confined to this county. The drilling and dibbling system is much practised. The management of the arable land, and the courses of crops differ according to the soil. In the strong soils, the usual course is fallow, beans, barley, clover, and wheat; in the rich loam and sand, turnips, barley, clover, and wheat; in the sand districts, turnips, barley, trefoil, and ray grass, peas dibbled, and barley; in the fenny part, cole seed is first sown on one ploughing after paring and burning; then oats are sown twice in succession, and the last is accompanied with ray grass, and clover, for six or seven years. The crops usually grown are wheat, barley, oats, rye, peas, beans, buck wheat, tares, cole seed, turnips, clover, white clover, trefoil, and sainfoin. Hops, lucerne, potatoes, chicory, hemp and cabbages, are likewise cultivated. One of the manures used by the Suffolk farmers is peculiar to this county; it is called *crag*, and is composed of dry powdered shells. The Suffolk cows are famous for the quantity of milk they produce, some of them yielding from five to eight gallons a day; they are generally small, not weighing above fifty stone. It is computed that about 40,000 firkins of butter are annually sent from Suffolk to the London markets. The Norfolk breed of sheep kept in this county is celebrated for the quality of their wool, and for fattening at an early age; but their excellence is diminished by their voracity, their bad shape, and restless disposition. The South Down, and in a few places, the Merino breed, are superseding the others. Suffolk is famous for its breed of horses; it likewise produces excellent hogs, and abundance of poultry, particularly turkeys. Great numbers of pigeons are reared in the western part, and numerous rabbit warrens are interspersed over different parts of this county. Amongst the agricultural implements used, or

first invented here, may be mentioned the Suffolk swing plough, the new drill plough, the horse rake for clearing spring corn stubbles, threshing mill, moveable stage for building the upper part of hay or corn stacks, and the extirpator or scalp plough. The waste lands, consisting of sheep walks, warrens, &c., amount to about 100,000 acres. The tenures of property in this county are chiefly freehold, though a considerable portion is copyhold. The farms in general may be considered large, although in the wet loam there are many small ones. The usual term for leases is 7, 14, and 21 years.

MANUFACTURES of any importance are few in this county. The principal is the spinning and combing of wool, which formerly employed between 30 and 40,000 persons, but is now very much declined. The manufacture of hemp is carried on to a considerable extent. At Lavenham are manufactories of calimancoes, and some at Sudbury for says and silk.

RIVERS.—The principal are the Stour, the Gipping, or Orwell, the Deben, the Blythe, the Ald, the Lark, the Waveney, and the Little Ouse.

The STOUR rises on the borders of Cambridgeshire, and after running to Haverhill, takes an eastern direction, and forms the boundary between Suffolk and Essex. It passes by Sudbury, and receiving the waters of the Bret and other streams, is gradually augmented, till it meets the Orwell; when thus united, they form the harbour of Harwich, and fall into the German ocean.

The GIPPING rises near Stow-market, whence it flows toward the south-east, and after watering Ipswich, takes the name of the Orwell, and proceeds to join the Stour.

The DEBEN rises near Debenham, and taking a south eastern direction, passes Woodbridge, and enters the German ocean, about two miles north of Harwich.

The BLYTHE rises near Saxfield, and after flowing by Halesworth, Blyth burgh, and Southwold, enters the sea.

The ALD has its source near Framlingham, and after flowing in a south-east direction to Aldborough, turns to the south, and falls into the German ocean.

The LARK rises in the south-west part of the county, and after passing Bury and Mildenhall, enters the Great Ouse.

The WAVENEY and LITTLE OUSE have already been described in Norfolk.

Remarkable Places.

ACTON PLACE, three miles from Sudbury, though formerly a fine structure, was never completely finished; it is now in a state of dilapidation, but the interior displays some remains of its ancient grandeur. The hall is adorned with alto relievos, and the ceiling with a beautiful painting; the point room is hung with needle-work, and in one of the rooms is shewn a small bed, the furniture of which is said to be lined with the shirts of William III.

ALDBOROUGH, 94 miles from London, two centuries ago, was a place of great importance, but having been reduced to a fishing town, by the encroachments of the sea, was rapidly going to decay, till its retired situation attracted several families to reside here, who preferred it to a more fashionable watering-place. The town is governed by two bailiffs, 10 capital, and 24 inferior burgesses, and sends two members to parliament. The church is an ancient building, though intermixed with modern work. A marine villa, near the church, is much admired for a curious octagon room. In order to protect the fishing and trading vessels, a battery is erected at the end of the main street, and a martello tower on the beach. The magnificent terrace on the hill behind the town commands a very fine view. Aldborough possesses great advantages as a bathing-place; the strand is well adapted for walking and bathing, and the bathing machines are very commodious. Aldborough is well supplied with every luxury of the table. The native inhabitants are principally fishermen. Houses, 227. Inhabitants, 1,066.

ASHFIELD, five miles from Stowmarket, is a small village, but is worthy of notice, as the birth-place of Lord Chancellor Thurlow.

BECCLES, six miles from Bungay, a well-built town, on the Waveney, consists of several streets, terminating in a spacious market-place. The church is a Gothic edifice, with a steeple; the porch is a fine specimen of florid Go-

thic, and the church-yard commands an extensive prospect. The corporation consists of a portreeve and 36 burgesses. The town hall is a handsome building, and the gaol is on the modern system. Beccles has a free school, and a good grammar school. Houses, 661. Inhabitants, 2,979.

BRADFIELD HALL, near Bury St. Edmunds, is distinguished as being the native place, as well as the residence, of Arthur Young, Esq., whose agricultural improvements and distinguished talents will entitle him to the grateful remembrance of posterity.

BRANDON, five miles from Thetford, agreeably situated on the Little Ouse, is well built, and its church is a good structure. In the neighbourhood are some extensive rabbit-warrens, which largely contribute to the supply of the London markets. At this place is a manufactory for gun-flints. Simon Eyre, who was Lord Mayor of London in 1445, was a native of Brandon.

Market on Tuesday. Fairs, February 14. June 11, and November 11. Number of houses, 215; inhabitants, 1,360

BROOME HALL, near Eye, a fine old mansion, the seat of Marquess Cornwallis, is built of brick, with curiously ornamented chimneys. It has a very stately appearance; and the great hall is considered a perfect specimen of old English magnificence; it is ornamented with a large window of painted glass. The other apartments are adorned with pictures; but the most sumptuous vestiges of its former splendour are in the chapel, which is richly decorated with silk velvet, and gold.

BUNGAY, nine miles from Halesworth, on the Waveney, is a neat and modern-built town, with two churches; St. Mary's, with its beautiful steeple, forms a great ornament to the town. Here are the ruins of a strong castle, now inhabited by the lowest class of people, though once the residence of nobility. The market-place is adorned with two crosses, and the principal streets are broad and well paved. The theatre and assembly-room are neat buildings. In this town are a free-school and a meeting-house. There are also several springs of mineral water; that at the King's Head inn is said to possess medicinal properties. There are several

flour-mills, malting-offices, and lime-kilns; and, by means of the Waveney, an extensive trade is carried on in corn, malt, flour, coal, and lime. Hempen cloth is manufactured here. Houses, 549; inhabitants, 2,828.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS, 71 miles from London, stands on the west side of the river Bourne, or Lark. It is so pleasantly situated, commanding such extensive views, and the air is so salubrious, that it has been denominated the Montpelier of England. Being situated on a rising ground, and sandy soil, the streets of this place are always extremely clean. The town is governed by a recorder, and 12 capital burgesses, one of whom is annually chosen alderman, and acts as chief magistrate; six others are assistant justices; and one holds the office of coroner. The remainder of the body corporate consists of 24 common councilmen; and these 36 persons only return two members to parliament. During the prosperity of the abbey, it comprehended within its precincts, besides the conventual church, three others, St. Margaret's, St. Mary's, and St. James's. The former has long ceased to be appropriated to religious purposes, and is now used as the town-hall; the others are the churches of two parishes, into which Bury is divided. St. Mary's was first erected in 1005; it began to be rebuilt in its present state in 1424, and was finished about the year 1433. The roof of the nave, constructed in France, and put together after it was brought to England, is admired for its lightness and elegance. The north porch of this church, and particularly the *cul-de-lampe*, is of curious workmanship. St. James's Church, constructed of free-stone, is a fine Gothic building, and the west end is particularly beautiful. The church-gate is considered one of the noblest specimens of architecture in the kingdom. The remains of the west end of St. Edmund's church, which bound the church-yard on one side, at present exhibit a singular and motley spectacle. In the church-yard stands Clopton's Hospital, a handsome brick building. On the opposite side of the church-yard stands the shire-hall, or sessions-house, where the assizes for the county are held; it is a building of modern erection on the site of the ancient church of St. Margaret. The abbey-gate, one of the principal ornaments of Bury, was the grand entrance

to the monastery, and opened into the great court-yard, in front of the abbot's palace; the architecture is of the best period of the Gothic style; the numerous embellishments are arranged with taste, and executed with precision; but the principal object which claims attention is the beautiful arch, the symmetry and elegant proportions of which are truly worthy of admiration. The Guildhall gives name to the street in which it stands: its appearance does not bespeak a public edifice. Here the town sessions are held, corporation members chosen, and other business of a similar nature transacted. This town has a free grammar-school, three charity-schools, and a school on the plan of Mr. Lancaster. The theatre was built in 1780, and is a beautiful specimen of taste and architectural skill. There are several meeting-houses. The assembly-rooms, a newly erected edifice of simple exterior, are in general attended by persons of the first rank and fashion; but persons in trade, however respectable and opulent, are rigorously excluded. The Suffolk public library is situated in Abbey Gate Street. The new gaol is superior to most in this kingdom; and the house of correction nearly adjoins it. It is not perhaps generally known, that the foundation of Magna Charta is a charter of Henry I., which had fallen into oblivion as early as the time of King John, who, on his return from Poitou in 1214, met his barons at Bury, and with the utmost solemnity confirmed this celebrated deed.

Markets on Wednesday and Saturday. Fairs, Easter Tuesday, October 2, and December 1. Number of houses, 1,504; inhabitants, 7,986.

CLARE, 15 miles from Braintree, formerly a place of considerable note, is seated on the Stour. The houses are in general mean, and the streets broad, but not paved. On the north side stands an ancient house, which attracts attention, from its ornaments, consisting chiefly of armorial bearings and foliage. Of the once celebrated castle of Clare few vestiges now remain. At a short distance from the castle stand the ruins of Clare Priory, a monastery of Augustine canons, founded in 1248. The parish church of Clare is an old but beautiful edifice. Number of houses, 258. Inhabitants, 1170.

EUSTON HALL, two miles and a half from Thetford, the seat of the Duke of Grafton, is a commodious brick mansion, in the old style, the bed-rooms being on the ground-floor. The scenery around this house is particularly beautiful. The temple, in the park, designed for a banquetting-house, is an elegant edifice, built by the famous Kent.

EXNING, a village, one mile from Newmarket, is pleasantly situated in a small vale, with a rivulet running through it. The church is a good and spacious building, with a lofty square tower, which commands a very extensive prospect, and is seen at a great distance. This town, formerly of greater note, was the birth-place of Etheldred, daughter of king Anna, whom the Pope canonized for a virgin, though she was married to two husbands. Here also Ralph Waher, earl of the East-Angles, planned his conspiracy against William the Conqueror, with Roger de Britolio, Earl of Hereford, Waltheof, Earl of Northumberland, and some other persons of high rank.

EYE, 20½ miles from Ipswich, is almost surrounded by a rivulet. The church is a handsome building, but the streets are narrow, and the houses mean. The town is governed by two bailiffs, 10 principal burgesses, 24 common-councilmen, a recorder, and a town-clerk. It sends two members to parliament, and the right of election is vested in the corporation and inhabitants, paying scot and lot; the number of voters is about 200. On the east side of the town are the ruins of a Benedictine monastery. Number of houses, 326. Inhabitants, 1,893.

FINBOROUGH HALL, near Stowmarket, is an elegant mansion of woolpit brick and stands in a most delightful situation. The park, consisting of about 200 acres, is well wooded. The church contains, amongst other monuments of the Wollaston family, that of William Wollaston, author of *The Religion of Nature Delineated*.

FRAMLINGHAM, 16 miles from Ipswich, is a town of great antiquity, seated on an eminence, near the source of the Ore. The market-place is large, and the church is a stately building of flint-stone, containing numerous monuments of celebrated persons. This town is particularly distinguished by the ruins of its magnificent castle, which was for a long time the residence of the Dukes of

Norfolk. No part remains except the outer wall, including a space of one acre, one rood, and 11 perches, in which not a single vestige of an apartment is discoverable. Queen Mary repaired to this castle during the time that Lady Jane Grey was seated on the throne. Houses 415. Inhabitants 1,965.

GRIMSTONE HALL, about two miles from Landguard Fort, in the parish of Trimley St. Martin, is only remarkable as having been the residence of Cavendish, the famous circumnavigator.

HADLEIGH, seven miles from Ipswich, situated on the river Breton, was formerly a corporation. The church in the centre of the town is a handsome structure, in which is interred Guthram, or Gorma, the Danish chieftain, who embraced Christianity after being defeated by Alfred. The woollen trade which was formerly carried on to great extent here, is now reduced to the spinning of yarn for the Norwich manufacturers. Hadleigh has a Sunday-school, and 12 alms houses. It is remarkable for the martyrdom of its rector, Dr. Taylor, in the reign of Queen Mary, who was burnt in 1555, for his attachment to the Reformation. Houses 514. Inhabitants 2,592.

HAVERHILL, four miles from Clare, is a considerable market town. Many of the inhabitants are employed in the manufacture of cottons, checks and fustians. The principal street is broad, but the houses are mean. The church is a spacious building. Here are two meeting-houses, and a charity-school. Houses, 252. Inhabitants, 1,216.

HELMINGHAM HALL, seven miles from Ipswich, built about the time of Henry VIII., is a quadrangular brick edifice, surrounded by a moat, filled with water, over which are two draw-bridges, drawn up every night. The house contains a good library, a few fine paintings, and a collection of ancient armour. In the park, which is well stocked with deer, are some fine oak trees.

HEVENINGHAM HALL, five miles from Halesworth, the splendid residence of Baron Huntingfield, is one of the finest seats in the county. The house is of modern erection, and the interior is embellished by a fine collection of paintings. At the old mansion Queen Elizabeth is said to have been entertained, and to have en-

joyed the pleasures of the chase. The whole of the country in the vicinity, is adorned with plantations of oak, beech, and chesnut, trees.

HONINGTON, near Bury, is a small village, but is remarkable for having given birth to Robert Bloomfield the poet, who was born in a cottage near the church. His mother's natal place was Fakenham, a village in the vicinity.

ICKWORTH PARK, three miles from Bury, may vie with any in the kingdom, being 11 miles in circumference, and containing 1,800 acres. The old mansion of Earl Bristol is not remarkable; but not far from it stands a new building, planned upon a very extensive scale, by the late Earl, for the purpose of depositing in it various works of art which he had collected during a long residence in the classic regions of Italy. From the immense sum that would be required to finish this structure, it is not improbable that the hand of time will be suffered to reduce it to a ruin. The interior of this edifice exhibits a mere shell, with a kind of open wooden staircase to ascend the roof, which commands a beautiful and extensive view of the adjacent country.

IPSWICH, 69 miles from London, the capital of the county, is situated on the side of a hill, and is sheltered from the north and east winds by the hills rising above the town. The streets, though well paved, are narrow and irregular; the town contains many well built houses, to which gardens are attached. This town is said to have formerly contained 21 parish churches, but only 12 now exist, to which may be added the liberty of the borough, containing the churches of Thurlweston, Whitton, and Westerfield. In the centre of the market-place is a handsome cross, with extensive shambles. The county gaol is well adapted to promote the health and morals of its inmates. The house of correction is pleasantly situated near the borough-hall. The town and borough gaol is a commodious building; the prisoners are employed in spinning, making garters, and similar articles, and receive the whole of the profit arising from their sale. Ipswich has several meeting-houses, three charity-schools, a Lancasterian school, and an excellent charity for the relief of the widows and orphans of poor clergymen in this county. The stone bridge con-

necting the town with Stoke Hamlet, is a handsome structure, and the assembly rooms are spacious and elegant. On the Woodbridge road are extensive barracks, and a little beyond them is the race-course. The officers of the corporation are, a high steward, two bailiffs, a recorder, 12 portmen, a town-clerk, 24 chief constables, a treasurer, two chamberlains, and several inferior officers. Ipswich sends two members to parliament; the right of election is vested in the bailiffs, portmen, common-councilmen, and freemen not receiving alms. The number of voters is between 600 and 700. Ipswich was formerly famed for its manufacture of woollen cloth and sail cloth, called Ipswich double, but it began to diminish in the 17th century, and at length became totally annihilated. The town, however, being favourably situated for commercial enterprise, now carries on a very extensive trade in malting, coals, and corn. Vessels neatly fitted up for passengers, sail every tide from this place to Harwich and return. In the reign of Queen Mary this town witnessed the execution of some of her cruel orders. Amongst the celebrated persons born here may be mentioned Cardinal Wolsey, Clara Reeve, and Mrs. Trimmer. Houses, 2,853. Inhabitants, 13,670.

LANGUARD FORT, opposite Harwich, stands at the mouth of the Orwell, and at high water resembles an island. It was erected in 1718, and completely commands the entrance of the Orwell harbour. It is generally garrisoned by a detachment of troops from Ipswich or Woodbridge. A handsome brick building contains the apartments of the governor, and lieutenant governor.

LAVENHAM, seven miles from Sudbury, is seated on an eminence near the river Breton. It was formerly celebrated for its manufactory of blue cloths, serges, shalloons, stuffs and says, but the only manufactures now carried on, are those for spinning woollen yarn, and making hempen cloth and calimancoes. It has a bridewell and workhouse, a free school, and a large market place, in the centre of which is a stone cross. The church is considered the finest of its kind in the county. The town is governed by six capital burgesses. Houses, 310. Inhabitants, 1,711.

LOWESTOFF, 10 miles from Yarmouth, is a market-town, on an eminence, overlooking the German ocean. It consists principally of one street, intersected by several lanes. Though the town is a considerable distance from the water, it is much frequented for bathing, as the sand is hard and free from mud. The church about half a mile from the town, consists of a nave and two aisles; the chancel is particularly neat, and the font is very ancient. In an elevated spot near the edge of the cliff stands the upper light-house, a circular tower about 40 feet high. The commerce of Lowestoff is chiefly derived from the herring fishery, in which between 40 and 50 boats are employed. The Lowestoff herrings obtain a higher price than those of any other place. The mackerel fishery here likewise employs about 20 boats. Off this town was fought a sanguinary naval battle between the English and Dutch, in the year 1665. Houses, 646. Inhabitants, 3,189.

MILDENHALL, about eight miles from Newmarket, is a pleasant, well-built place: towards the fens, are several large streets, called by the inhabitants rows, as West-row, Beck-row, Holywell-row, which, of themselves are as large as ordinary villages. The church is a large handsome structure, with a rich roof of carved wood work. Mildenhall has furnished London with two lord-mayors; Henry Barton, who held that office in 1428; and William Gregory, in 1451.

Market on Friday; fairs on the 10th October, which lasts three days, a statute fair on the 29th September; number of houses, 363; inhabitants, 2,493.

ORFORD, three miles from Aldborough, near the confluence of the Alde and Ore, is a small and ill-built town, but was formerly a place of importance. Of its castle only the Keep now remains. The church or chapel was, when entire, a handsome building, but the time of its erection is unknown; it contains numerous funeral memorials. The town-hall is an insignificant building, and the assembly-room is but little used. In Orford river is an oyster fishery. Houses, 95. Inhabitants, 737.

REDGRAVE HALL, two miles and a half from Botesdale, is a spacious and handsome mansion, erected

with wool-pit brick, in 1770. The original building belonged to the monastery of Bury. The park is well wooded and adorned with a fine piece of water. The church contains some fine marble monuments; amongst which is that of Sir Nicholas Bacon, lord-keeper to Queen Elizabeth, who for some time resided at Redgrave Hall. In the chancel is the beautiful monument of Judge Holt, who died in 1709. The famous Cardinal Wolsey, was preferred to this rectory, in 1506.

SOUTHWOLD, 20 miles from Yarmouth, is pleasantly situated on an eminence, overlooking the German ocean, and nearly surrounded by the river Blithe. It is governed by two bailiffs, a recorder, and 12 aldermen. The church, dedicated to St. Edmund, is a noble fabric. The guild-hall is the only public building worthy of notice. On the cliff are two batteries: this town, and the coast in the vicinity, from Harwich to Winterton-ness, in Norfolk, is remarkable as the landing place of swallows, when returning from warmer climes, and as their place of departure when emigrating. Southwold Bay is celebrated for a naval engagement, which took place in 1672, between the combined English and French fleet and the Dutch. Houses, 326; inhabitants, 1,369.

STOW-MARKET, three miles from Needham, is a populous and increasing town, with many good houses. The church is a spacious and handsome building. A considerable business is carried on here in barley and malting, as well as in the manufacture of sacking, ropes, twine and hemp. Most of the county meetings are held in this town. Stow-market derives considerable benefit from the canal leading to Ipswich, which is a great ornament to the town. The house of industry is a very fine building, about a mile distant. Houses, 401; inhabitants, 2,006.

SUDBURY, 14 miles from Bury St. Edmunds, an ancient borough and market-town, consists of three parishes, incorporated into one, and contains three churches. The corporation consists of a mayor, six aldermen, and 24 capital burgesses; it sends two members to parliament. Here is a manufactory of silk, established by the London Mercers. Sudbury was the native place

of that distinguished painter Gainsborough. Houses, 689; inhabitants, 3,471.

TROSTON HALL, near Bury, the seat of Capel Loft, Esq, is a commodious mansion in the old style, and is furnished with an excellent collection of books. Many of the trees in the grounds bear the names of different ancient authors, and other eminent men, to whom the benevolent patron of Bloomfield has dedicated them. At Troston was born in 1713, E. Capel, the uncle of Mr. Loft, well known for his commentaries on Shakspeare.

WOODBRIDGE, eight miles from Ipswich, is situated on the side of a sandy hill, overlooking the river Deben. It carries on an immense trade in flour, corn, malt, beans and pease. The principal streets are tolerably well paved, and contain many good houses. In the centre of the market-place is an ancient shire-hall. The church is a large and noble structure, supposed to have been erected in the reign of Edward III. The town contains a free grammar-school, several meeting-houses, and an alms-house. Very fine sea salt is made in the neighbourhood. Houses, 702. Inhabitants, 4,332.

SURRY.

Length 37 miles. Breadth 27. Circumference 146. Square miles 811. Square acres 517,040. Hundreds 13. Market towns, 11. Parishes 139. Houses 58,484. Persons 334,700.—Diocese of Winchester.—Home Circuit.—Members to Parliament 14.—Militia-men 800.

Boundaries.—Surry is bounded on the north by a small part of Buckinghamshire, and by Middlesex, from which it is separated by the Thames; on the east, it is bounded by Kent; on the south, by Sussex; and on the west, by the counties of Berkshire and Hampshire. The climate varies considerably in different parts of the county, but may be, in general, pronounced dry. The low parts near the Thames, and the southern border, are moist; but the atmosphere of the chalk hills, which cross the county from east to west, is dry and bracing, and resembles that on the heaths near Aldershot, Hind-head, and Bagshot. The spring is early, vegetation seldom checked by frost, and the summers are warm and dry. The climate, in most parts of the county, is salubrious, arising from the dryness of the soil and atmosphere. With the exception of the Weald, the face of the country presents a pleasing variation of hill and dale. The surface of the north-west part of the county is varied by Cooper's and St. Anne's Hills, while St. George's Hill tends to give variety to the western part. The other eminences of this county are the heights of Putney, Richmond, Roehampton, Norwood and Dulwich, Sandersted Hill, Box Hill, Bansted Downs, Hedley Heath, Leith Hill, Tilbuster Hill, and Gatewood Hill. There are few large estates in this county, the greatest not exceeding 10,000*l.* per annum, and few approaching that sum.

The Soil of this county is greatly varied, and very much intermixed. It may be divided into clay, loam, chalk, and heath. The district called the Weald of Surry, extending about 30 miles in length, and from three to five in breadth, along the southern part of the county, consists of a cold, pale, and retentive clay, with a sub-

soil of the same kind. North of the Weald is a district of sandy loam of great depth, on a subsoil of sand-stone, likewise extending across the county for about half a mile in breadth, except near Shalford and Albury, where it is much broader. Adjoining the latter are the chalky downs, occupying the centre of the county; they extend from the borders of the county on the Kent side, where they are about seven miles in breadth, and gradually diminish till they reach the Hampshire border. Along the summit of these downs is a considerable portion of heath. The land north-east of the Downs consists principally of strong clay, with veins of sandy loam, occasionally interspersed with gravel. The soil west of the Downs is clay. The soil between the Thames and the clay district is generally sandy, though intermixed with loam and clay. The whole tract between Egham and Ash, including Bagshot, Byfleet, Ripley, and Oatlands, is a moorish soil, or heath of the most barren kind. Iron ore is found near Haslemere, Dunsfold, Cranley, Lingfield, and Horne, but from the want of fuel the iron-works are much neglected. Ragstone, mixed with iron, is found, near Send, Chobham, and at the junction of the Weald with the sand-hills south of Ryegate, Dorking, and Blechingly. Fuller's-earth, of two kinds, is dug in the vicinity of Nutfield, Ryegate, and Blechingly; and near these places, as well as at Godstone, Gatton, and Merstham, are quarries of stone of peculiar quality: when dug it is very soft, but after being kept covered a few months will resist the action of a common fire. Large quantities of lime-stone are dug near Dorking, and at Guildford, Carshalton, and Sutton. Chalk abounds in every part of the county, and is used as a manure. The sand found near Dorking, Tamridge, and Ryegate, is used in the manufacture of hour-glasses, and is remarkably fine. Brick-earth is found in various parts of the county; and in the parish of Cheam bricks capable of resisting fire, are made.

Agriculture.—This county contains a much larger portion of arable than of pasture land: but, on account of the variety of soil, no account can be given of the rotation of crops. The drill husbandry is very little followed, except in the western part of the county. Wheat

produces from two to six quarters per acre; barley from four to seven and a-half, and oats about three, though when sown after turnips, or on clean ley, from six to eight. In that part of the county adjoining the metropolis are grown garden peas and beans, potatoes, and cabbages. Turnips, carrots, clover, and sainfoin, are grown in considerable quantities, but very little lucerne. Farnham is distinguished for its hops, in the cultivation of which about 900 acres are employed. About 350 acres in this county are occupied in the growth of medicinal herbs, such as wormwood, liquorice, poppy, aniseed, peppermint, chamomile, and lavender. Surry possesses very little pasture or meadow land, and no dairy grounds. The garden grounds are supposed to occupy about 3,500 acres; the gardens near Mortlake and Battersea are famous for asparagus. The horses generally employed by the farmers are large and black. The cows are mostly of the Holderness breed, although there are some of the Devonshire, Welsh, Sussex, and Staffordshire kinds. The rearing of calves for the London market is little attended to now, except in the Weald, and in the vicinity of Bagshot and Chobham. Great quantities of sheep are bred in the centre and western borders, consisting principally of the South Down, Wiltshire, and Dorsetshire breeds. In the neighbourhood of Walton, Ewel, and Esher, a considerable quantity of house-lambs are reared. A great number of hogs are fed in the starch manufactories and distilleries of this county, as well as by the farmers. The Weald is famous for its geese, and Dorking for fowls. Near Banstead Downs is a hare-warren of three acres, but there are very few rabbit-warrens. The farms may be considered small, the average size being from 200 to 300 acres, although there are several from 600 to 1,200 acres, and a few of larger size. Tenures are chiefly freehold. The farms are let on leases which are generally of seven, fourteen, or twenty-one years; the rents may be considered low.

The MANUFACTURES of this county are various, although not sufficiently numerous nor extensive to constitute it a manufacturing district. Its immediate vicinity to the metropolis affords constant encouragement to manufactories comparatively on a small scale. The regular

demand not only ensures a regular profit, bu prevents the sudden and immense increase of establishments; Surry is, therefore, free from that miserable distress so often prevalent, where manufactories are indefinitely increased by the spirit of trade, fostered by the uncertain success of foreign speculation. The principal articles manufactured in this county are gunpowder, shot, and malt.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers of this county are the *Wey*, the *Mole*, and the *Wandle*. The THAMES washes the northern border of the county. A branch of the MEDWAY rises in the south-east part, and, after flowing through the parish of Lingfield, enters Kent. The river LODDON borders the county on the west side.

The WEY has it source near Haslemere, and, after flowing by Liphook, in Hampshire, again enters Surry, and, being joined at Shalford by a small stream which gives motion to several mills, proceeds to Godalming and Guildford. From the latter place it takes a north-east direction to Woking, and thence to Weybridge, where it falls into the Thames.

The MOLE derives its source from several springs in the southern part of the county, and in the forest of Tilgate, in Sussex, the union of which forms, near Rye-gate, a stream of considerable size. It passes through a flat and uninteresting country, till near Dorking it flows through one of the valleys formed by the Downs, and laves the base of Box hill; thence it proceeds to Leatherhead, and, leaving the hills, meanders through several commons by Stoke, Cobham, and Esher; it then flows through East and West Molesley, and enters the Thames near Hampton Court.

The WANDLE rises near Croydon, and, flowing by Beddington, Carshalton, Mitcham, and Merton, enters the Thames near Wandsworth. In its course it turns between 30 and 40 mills.

CANALS.—The WEY NAVIGATION extends from Godalming and Guildford to Weybridge.

The BASINGSTOKE CANAL commences at Basingstoke, and, entering Surry near Dradbrook, proceeds by Colingley Moor, Pirbright, and Oak Farm, to the river Wey, whence it is continued to the Thames.

The SURRY CANAL commences in the Thames at Ro-

therhithe, and, running west of Deptford, crosses the Kent, Camberwell, and Clapham Roads, to Vauxhall Creek, where it again joins the Thames after a course of eight miles.

The CROYDON CANAL forms a communication between Croydon and the Surry Canal at Deptford.

Remarkable Places.

ALBURY PLACE, near Guildford, is a handsome building, with an elegant front, consisting of eight Ionic columns, sustaining a pediment. The park is finely wooded, and abounds with stately chesnut trees. In the church, situated in the park, are two curious octagon pillars resting on Sussex marble. Within the park likewise is a strong spring, called Shireburn Wells, formerly much frequented for its medicinal properties.

BAGSHOT PARK, 27 miles from London, is the seat of the Duke of Gloucester. The mansion is situated in the centre of a park, about three miles in circumference. The adjacent heath supplies the neighbouring inhabitants with fuel, and affords pasture for a great number of sheep and cattle.

BATTERSEA is a neat little village, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from London, where the celebrated Bolingbroke was born and died. It is noted for asparagus, and for an horizontal windmill. A wooden bridge crosses the Thames at this place. In the summer season, great numbers of persons go up the river in boats to this place, and to Richmond. The romantic banks of the Thames in this direction are the admiration of natives and foreigners.

BEDDINGTON PARK, 10 miles from London. The old mansion was erected by Sir Francis Crew, in the 16th century, in which Queen Elizabeth resided for three days, in August, 1599, and visited it again in the following year. The queen's oak, and her favourite walk, are still shown. Sir Francis Crew was celebrated for his cultivation of fruit trees. The present house was built in 1709, and the rooms are adorned with numerous pictures.

BLECHINGLEY, 20 miles from London, is a small borough town, sending two members to parliament. The church is a large and handsome edifice, with a square tower. In the south chancel is the monument of Sir Ro-

bert Clayton and his lady, with their whole-length figures in white marble. This town has a free-school, and 10 alms houses.

Fairs, 22 June, and 2 November. Number of houses, 184. Inhabitants, 1,116.

CHERTSEY, 22 miles from London, is a market town, on the banks of the Thames. The church, dedicated to St. Ann, is a large and handsome building, with a square tower; the east window is ornamented with painted glass. The market house is a fine building in the principal street. In Porch House, in this town, resided Cowley the poet. Chertsey has a charity school and five alms houses.

Market on Wednesday. Fairs, 1st Monday in Lent, 14 May, 6 August, and 25 September. Number of houses, 694. Inhabitants, 3,629.

CLANDON PLACE, near Guildford, the seat of Earl Onslow, was erected in 1731, from designs by Leoni. The hall contains two fine chimney-pieces, by Rysbrack, and the rooms are richly furnished with fine paintings. The stables, built from designs by Brown, have a stately appearance. The pleasure grounds are neatly laid out, and the park, which abounds with timber, is well stocked with deer.

CLAREMONT-HOUSE, near Esher, about 17 miles from London, is situated on a charming spot of country; it still attracts attention, in consequence of having been the residence of the late beloved and lamented Princess Charlotte, and the scene of her death. The Prince Leopold still resides here. Sir John Vanbrugh, so well known for his particular style of architecture, bought some land here, and built a low brick house, for his own habitation. The spot he chose was in low ground, without the advantage of prospects. Thomas Hollis Pelham, Earl of Clare, bought it of Sir John; the Earl was afterwards created Duke of Newcastle, August 2d, 1715. He made it his habitation, and added a magnificent room for the entertainment of large companies, when he was in administration. He increased the grounds by further purchases, and by enclosing parts of the adjoining heath, and it now contains upwards of 300 acres besides two farms; and the other part of the estate con-

tains about 1,600 acres in several farms. The duke adorned the park by many plantations, under the direction of Kent. On a mount in the park, the duke erected a building in the shape of a castle, and called it Claremont, from his own name, by which the place has been since known. After the death of the duke, it was purchased by Lord Clive, the conqueror of India. Previous to his last voyage, he gave directions to Mr. Browne, so well known for his taste in laying out grounds, to build a house, and lay out the grounds without any limitation of expense. He performed the task much to the satisfaction of his lordship, who expended upwards of 100,000*l*. The house is an oblong square of 44 yards by 34. On the ground-floor are eight spacious rooms, besides the hall of entrance, and the great staircase. In the principal front, a flight of steps leads to the great entrance under a pediment, supported by Corinthian columns. Lord Clive was at the expense of varying the line of the turnpike road, in order to add a few acres to the park. The ground so gained has been planted, and the trees and shrubs grow luxuriantly. Lord Clive died Nov. 23, 1774; after which, this estate was sold to Viscount Galway, of whom it was bought by the Earl of Tyrconnel, who made it his residence till 1807, when he sold it to Charles Rose Ellis, Esq., who occupied it until 1816, when it was purchased by government, for the country residence of the Prince Leopold and Princess Charlotte of Cobourg for about 65,000*l*. In the hall, there is an excellent billiard table. The evening-room is on the right of this hall, and is enriched with many cabinets and tablets of curious workmanship; the walls are adorned principally with portraits, the most conspicuous of which are the full length portraits of Prince Leopold and her Royal Highness the Princess Charlotte. Besides these, there are fine paintings of the Bishop of Salisbury, (formerly the Princess's tutor), and Dr. Short, the chaplain. There are also in this room her late Royal Highness's piano-forte, an elegant little skreen, the workmanship and present of the Duchess of York; and a fine and most peculiar circular marine table, whose surface is beautiful, splendid, and curious. It consists of stones, shells, &c., picked up by the Princess on the sea-shore; many of them are transpa-

rent; others beautifully veined, and the whole fixed in a tasteful marble-looking composite, forming one solid mass of singularly-variegated mineral and other substances. This surface, most exquisitely polished, is supported by a well-wrought bronze massy frame: finished as this bijoux is, we deem it the most interesting, and gratifying curiosity about the premises. The dining-room is not remarkably large, and the only piece of furniture or decoration is a painting of our Sovereign, finished many years ago. In the library there is a good and useful, rather than an extensive and ostentatious, selection of books. A recess between one of the windows, is occupied with several quarto editions of the holy Scriptures—variously bound; some very plain, and others red morocco and gilt. In the recesses separating the different windows, there are engravings of our Royal Dukes, of distinguished characters, such as the Duke of Devonshire, in his minority, Lord Castlereagh, &c.; and in different parts of the library there are various busts, one of the Princess Charlotte, admirably executed (by Chantry, we believe), when the Princess was about 15 or 16 years of age. There is also a full length painting of the late Duchess of Brunswick; but the finest painting in the mansion is a three-quarter likeness of FREDERICK THE GREAT over the mantelpiece. It is superior to, and widely different from, all the likenesses that we have seen of that celebrated monarch. He has his hat in his hand, which enabled the painter to display a fine, intellectual, and expansive forehead, and quick piercing eyes: and it appears to have been taken at a period of the warrior's career, when he might be considered to be in the prime of life, as well as in the fullness of his glory. The library also contains an engraving of CHARLES JAMES FOX, and a finely illuminated copy of Prince Leopold's freedom of the city, and of the fishmongers' company, displaying his various orders, &c.—The *best drawing-room* is very neat and elegant. The hangings are yellow striped silk, the mouldings gilt, curtains uniform, and the cornices ornamented with wreaths of oak-leaf, &c., designed by the Princess Charlotte. On one side of the fire-place there is a interesting cluster of portraits: the Duke of Brunswick, (the Princess's grandfather); that Duchess of Brunswick, who was this duke's

parent; the Princess of Wales, her Royal Highness's mother: and an interesting likeness of Prince Leopold's mother. There is also a fine painting in the Spanish style, of a sister of Prince Leopold. From the back front of the house, there is a view of a pleasing vista of luxuriant trees, whose boughs sweep the sloping lawn; the lawn terminates with a rural cottage, intended as a music-room, in front of which is a pond, bearing on its silver surface various aquatic birds. "*The Mount*" is a hill of considerable elevation, clothed with shrubs and overhanging trees. On the summit is a building called Claremont, from whence the estate takes its title, as appears from an inscription on its front, bearing these words, "And Clare Mont be the name, 1715." During the life-time of the Princess, it was used as a conservatory; but this plan was abandoned, a more eligible spot having been selected elsewhere, it being found that the plants did not thrive well. The new conservatory forms a pleasing object. A small elegant *Gothic temple*, situated on a fine elevation, was commenced in the life-time of the Princess, after a design of her own. It was intended for a summer house; on a pedestal in the interior, is placed a bust of her Royal Highness; and on the ceiling there are emblems of a spiritual character, such as a heavenly crown, &c. From this spot the visiter is led through paths bordered by ever-greens, until the eye suddenly bursts upon an extensive circular lake, surrounded by wood, and having in its centre an island covered with foliage, which the rays of the sun scarcely penetrate. In making the circuit of this lake, the attention is directed to a little cottage, the front of which is the design of the Princess herself: it bears all the characteristics of rusticity, and perfect comfort. In this cottage resides a woman about eighty years of age, a favourite object of her Royal Highness's bounty. It appears that this old lady, with her husband, had lived servant in successive families who occupied this estate; at length, the little hovel which stood on the site of the present building, was allotted to them, and they lived upon occasional contributions from the mansion-house, and the small earnings of the husband. On the arrival of the Princess, *Goody Bewley*, as she is called, attracted her notice. Her Royal Highness disco-

vered her residence, and observed her endeavouring to read an old Prayer-Book, printed upwards of 108 years ago, the small print of which, to her enfeebled eyes, was almost unintelligible. The Princess perceived this difficulty, and afterwards Mary Bewley received what she considered an inestimable treasure, namely, a Bible and a Prayer-Book of large print; and, in a short time, through the same benevolence, her old and shattered residence was in great part removed, and the present cottage substituted.

The Princess, when passing in her garden chaise, drawn by a poney, frequently stopped opposite the cottage, and conversed with "Goody Bewley." On leaving the old woman's cottage, the walk is pursued by the side of the lake through a wild, but artificial scene of hanging rocks, and thence through various lawns and shrubberies, to the front of the mansion. The kitchen garden and greenhouses are only interesting from the recollection of her under whose direction they arrived at their present perfection.—The state and other carriages are elegant and commodious; and the stud of horses is select, rather than numerous.

COOPER'S HILL, near Egham, has been rendered remarkable by the muse of the poet Denham. A seat placed near the house is the identical spot whence he viewed the scenery he has so felicitously described.

CROYDON, 10 miles from London, is a market town of considerable size. The church is a large and handsome building of stone and flint, with a lofty tower, containing eight bells. In the centre chancel is a fine black marble monument, erected to the memory of Archbishop Grindall, who died in 1583, and in the south or Bishop's chancel are the monuments of Archbishop Whitgift, who died in 1610, and Archbishop Sheldon, who died in 1677. In this chancel likewise are buried Archbishops Potter, Wake, and Herring. In the church-yard is the tomb of Commodore Phipps, afterwards Lord Mulgrave. The charitable foundations of Croydon, are Whitgift's hospital, the Almshouse founded in the time of Henry VI., and the Little Almshouses. The town hall is a handsome and commodious building. The assizes are held here and at Guildford alternately.

Market on Saturday, Fairs, 5 June, and 2d October. Number of houses, 1,474. Inhabitants, 7,801.

DORKING, 24 miles from London, is situated near the river Mole, on one of the roads from London to Brighton. St. Martin's church is a neat and substantial building, consisting principally of stone and flints. It contains a nave, two aisles, chancel and transept. This town is particularly famous for a breed of fowls, with five claws. The town-hall where the sessions were formerly held, stands in the high-street. The vicinity of Dorking abounds with mansions and villas, many of which are delightfully situated.

Market on Thursday; fair-day before Holy Thursday; number of houses 607; inhabitants 3,259.

DULWICH, four miles from London. At this pleasant spot is *God's Gift College*, founded by Edward Alleyne, Esq., a player of great celebrity, and a contemporary of Shakspeare. He devoted the college to the maintenance, education, and relief of poor men, women, and children of the parishes of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate Without, London, St. Saviour's in Southwark, and that part of the parish of St. Giles, which is in the county of Middlesex; and also of the parish of Camberwell, in Surry. The corporation of this college is lord of the manor of Dulwich, and their estate being much increased by enclosure and other acts, by additional donations, and by the advanced value of their landed estates, while the original number of persons relieved has not been enlarged, a situation in God's Gift College is extremely desirable, and approaches to opulence.

EGHAM, 18 miles from London, a large village on the Thames, consists principally of one street, about a mile in length. The church is built of stone, and brick covered with stucco. There are two rows of almshouses at this place. Fairs, 29 May, and 19 September; number of houses 546; inhabitants 2,823.

EPSOM, 15 miles from London, is a large and pleasant village, formerly distinguished for its mineral waters, accidentally discovered in 1618: it was much frequented at the end of the 17th, and beginning of the 18th century, and possessed every requisite for a fashionable watering-

place, being furnished with assembly rooms, lodging-houses, &c. At the commencement of the 19th century the waters became less frequented, and the place has gradually declined. On a plain about two miles from the town, races are held annually, and are very much frequented, particularly by the London gentry. In this town is the country residence of Sir John Jackson, Bart. M. P., an eminent London merchant, to whom the world will be to the latest posterity infinitely indebted. To his generous assistance, Mr. Lancaster in a great degree owes the success of his plan of education.

Market on Friday; fair, 25 July; number of houses 403; inhabitants 2,515.

FARNHAM, nine miles from Alton, near the north bank of the Wey, consists principally of one street, running from east to west; many of the houses are well built. The castle on a hill, on the north side of the principal street, is a quadrangular and embattled brick building, covered with stucco. It belongs to the Bishops of Winchester, and contains an excellent library, and several fine paintings. Adjoining this edifice are some vestiges of the keep belonging to the ancient castle. The church, near the High-street, is an extensive fabric consisting of a nave, chancel and two aisles. The tower is a solid building, with a turret at each corner, and all the windows are richly decorated with tracery. The altar-piece is a fine painting of the Twelve Apostles, and there are several handsome monuments. This town has a market-house, a free school, and a charity school. It is particularly famed for the growth of hops, which obtain a much better price than those of any other place. Several varieties are raised, but the white bine grape hop, is cultivated to the greatest extent. The largest hop plantation is not 60 acres, and the average size is from 10 to 20 acres.

Market on Thursday; fairs, Holy Thursday, 24 June, and 2 November; number of houses 538; inhabitants 2,911.

GATTON, near Ryegate, although consisting of only a few houses, sends two members to parliament. The number of voters is about seven.

GODALMING, four miles from Guildford, is a

market town, situated on the south bank of the Wey, consisting chiefly of one street, running from east to west. The bridge over the river here, was erected in 1783. The church is dedicated to St. Peter, and consists of a nave, two aisles, chancel and transept, from which rises the steeple, formed of timber covered with lead. The manufacture of cloths, and kerseys was formerly carried on to a considerable extent, at this town, as well as at Guildford and the adjacent places, but this business is now on the decline. The principal manufacture now, is that of silk and worsted for stockings, gloves, &c. Flannel and baize are likewise manufactured here. The town is governed by a warden, and seven assistants. About three quarters of a mile distant is an alms house, with a small chapel.

Market on Wednesday and Saturday; fairs, February 13, September 28, November 28, February 13, and July 10; number of houses 680; inhabitants 3,543.

GUILDFORD, 30 miles from London, the county town, is large and well built, and is pleasantly situated on the Wey. It consists principally of one broad street, nearly half a mile in length. This town contains three churches, a Roman Catholic chapel, and several meeting-houses; Trinity church on the south side of High-street is a handsome brick edifice, standing in the highest part of the town; at the east end of the church is the monument of Archbishop Abbot, and at the same part of the church is a cenotaph, to the memory of the Right Hon. Arthur Onslow, who was for 33 years, speaker of the House of Commons, and who died in 1768. St. Mary's church is a very ancient building, composed of chalk, flints, and stones, and consists of a nave, two aisles and chancel with a chapel on each side. St Nicholas' church is an old stone and chalk building, on the bank of the Wey, with a chapel on the south end. The hospital on the north side of the High street, exactly opposite Trinity church, was founded in 1619, by Archbishop Abbot; it is built of brick, with a handsome tower, gateway and turrets. The chapel on the north side of the building is remarkable for its beautifully painted glass; it likewise contains several portraits, amongst which is that of the founder. This town has a free gram-

mar-school and a charity school. The market-house is a handsome building, erected in 1819; the town-hall or guildhall is a spacious building, with a turret on the top: in the lower room are several portraits, and a representation of Sir R. Onslow, receiving the Dutch flag after the victory he obtained in 1797. The council-chamber up stairs, is a lofty room, with a curious chimney-piece, adorned with sculptured figures. The old gaol is situated near St. Mary's church, and a new one has been lately erected. The theatre stands near the town-hall, and in the parish of Stoke; adjoining Guildford is the hospital. Near the bridge over the Wey, is a cold-bath constructed in 1775. About two miles from the town is a race course, where a plate of 100 guineas, and three subscription plates, are run for in the Whitsun week. The assizes for the county are held here alternately with Kingston and Croydon; Guildford sends two members to parliament, and is governed by a mayor, recorder, seven magistrates, and bailiffs not exceeding 20.

Market on Saturday; fairs, 4 May, 2 October and 22 November; number of houses 527; inhabitants 2,974.

HAM HOUSE, 11 miles from London, the property of the Earls of Dysart, is supposed to have been originally built for Henry Prince of Wales, the son of James I., and is a singular specimen of the style of building prevalent at that period. The rooms are adorned with great magnificence, and the ceilings painted by Verrio. The house contains a fine collection of paintings, many of which are by Vandevelt and Wouvermans. In this mansion, that illustrious general and statesman John duke of Argyle, the grandson of the Duchess of Lauderdale, first drew breath.

HASLEMERE, nine miles from Godalming, a borough and market-town; sends two members to parliament, and the right of election is vested in the freeholders. The bailiff is the returning officer. St. Bartholomew's chapel at the north end of the town, is a small building, with a square tower; the east window contains nine compartments of painted glass. On the common adjoining the town is an alms-house.

Market on Tuesday; fairs, 12 May, and September 25; number of houses 156; inhabitants 756.

KEW is situated on the banks of the Thames, about seven miles from London, and within one mile and a half of Richmond. It is famed for the royal residence, called KEW PALACE, where the queen remained during her illness, and died.—It formerly belonged to the Capel family, and by marriage became the property of S. Molineux, Esq., secretary to George II. when prince of Wales. The late Frederic prince of Wales took a long lease of the house, which he made his frequent residence. Here occasionally resided James Thomson, the universally admired author of "*The Seasons;*" it is now held by His Majesty on the same tenure. The house was improved by Kent, and contains some pictures, among which are a portrait of Lord Burleigh, and a celebrated picture of the Florence Gallery by Zoffani. In the long room above stairs is a set of Canaletti's works. The gardens, which contain 120 acres, were begun by the late Prince of Wales, and finished by the Princess Dowager. On entering the garden from the palace, and turning toward the left hand, the first building which appears is *The Orangery*, or *Green-house;* the design by Sir W. Chambers. It was built in 1761. The front extends 145 feet; the room is 142 feet long, 30 feet wide, and 25 high. *The Temple of the Sun* is situated in an open grove near the orangery, in the way to the physic gardens. In the centre of its cove is represented the sun; and on the frieze, in twelve compartments, surrounded with branches of laurel, are represented the signs of the zodiac in basso-relievo. This building was erected in 1761. There is also a fine *Physic*, or *Exotic Garden*; and contiguous to it is *The Flower Garden.* The two sides are enclosed with high trees, and the end, facing the principal entrance, is occupied by an aviary of a vast depth, in which was kept a variety of birds, both foreign and domestic.

From the Flower Garden, a short winding walk leads to *The Menagerie.* It is of an oval figure; the centre is occupied by a large basin of water, surrounded by a walk; and the whole is enclosed by a range of pens, or

large cages, for Chinese and Tartarian pheasants, and other sorts of large exotic birds. The basin is stocked with such water-fowl as are too tender to live on the lake; and in the middle of it stands a pavilion of an irregular octagon plan. Near the Menagerie stands *The Temple of Bellona*, designed and built in 1760, and towards the lake, in a solitary walk on the left, is *The Temple of the god Pan*. It is of the Doric order; the profile imitated from that of the theatre of Marcellus at Rome. On an eminence, stands *The Temple of Eolus*, of the monopteros figure. *The Temple of Solitude* is situated very near the south front of the palace. At the head of the lake, and near the Temple of Eolus, stands a Chinese octagon building called *The House of Confucius*. In a thicket, near this house, is erected the engine which supplies the lake and basins in the gardens with water. It was contrived by Mr. Smeaton, and executed in 1761. The Temple of Victory is the next object. It stands on a hill, and was built in commemoration of the victory obtained in 1759, near Minden, by Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick, over Marshal De Contades. On an open space, near the centre of the wilderness, is erected *The Great Pagoda*. It was begun in the autumn of 1761, and covered in the spring of 1762. The design is an imitation of the Chinese Taa. The base is a regular octagon, 49 feet in diameter; the superstructure is likewise a regular octagon, and its elevation composed of 10 prisms which form the 10 different stories of the building. The lowest of these is 26 feet in diameter, exclusive of the portico which surrounds it, and 18 feet high; the second is 25 feet in diameter, and 17 feet high; and all the rest diminish in diameter and height, in the same arithmetical proportion, to the ninth story, which is 18 feet in diameter, and 10 feet high. The 10th story is 17 feet in diameter, and, with the covering, 20 feet high; and the finishing on the top is 17 feet high; so that the whole structure, from the base to the top of the fleuron, is 163 feet. The walls of the building are composed of very hard bricks; the outside of well-coloured and well-matched greystocks, neatly laid, and with such care, that there is not the least crack or fracture in the whole structure, notwithstanding its great height, and

the expedition with which it was built. The staircase is in the centre of the building. The prospects open as you advance in height; and from the top you command a very extensive view on all sides, and in some directions, upwards of 40 miles distant, over a rich and variegated country. Near the Grand Pagoda, on a rising ground, backed with thickets, stands *The Mosque*, which was designed and built in 1761. The body of the building consists of an octagon saloon in the centre, flanked with two cabinets, finishing with one large dome and two small ones.

In the way from the Mosque, towards the palace, is a Gothic building, the front representing a cathedral. The gallery of antiques was designed and executed in 1757. Near the banks of the lake, stands *The Temple of Arethusa*, a small Ionic building of four columns, designed and built in 1758. There is a bridge, thrown over a narrow channel of water, leading to the island in the lake. The design is, in a great measure, taken from one of Palladio's wooden bridges. It was erected in one night. *The Ruin* was designed and built in 1759, to make a passage for carriages and cattle over one of the principal walks of the garden. The intention was to imitate a Roman antiquity, built of brick, with an incrustation of stone. These gardens are opened every Sunday, from Midsummer to the end of autumn. The Exotic Garden, since Sir William Chambers wrote his account, has been enriched with a great number of new plants; with several in particular, from New South Wales. The old house, opposite the palace, was taken on a long lease by Queen Caroline, of the descendants of Sir Richard Levett, and has been inhabited by different branches of the royal family. The Prince of Wales was educated there, under the superintendence of the late Dr. Markham, archbishop of York. This house was bought in 1761 for her Majesty. Near this spot a *New Palace* has been erected by His Majesty, under the direction of Wyatt, the north front of which possesses, indeed, an air of solemn, sullen grandeur; but very ill accords with the taste and science generally displayed by its nominal architect.

KINGSTON, 10 miles from London, is a market-

town, on the east bank of the Thames. The corporation consists of bailiffs, high steward, recorder, town-clerk, and justices. The houses are most of them low and mean, but the market-place is a spacious area, at one end of which stands the town-hall; the front is adorned with a statue of Queen Anne, and the hall contains a portrait of that Sovereign. The upper part of the building is used for the courts of law, and the lower part for the market. The bridge, with the exception of London bridge, is the most ancient over the Thames. The church dedicated to All-Saints, consists of a nave, with north and south aisles. On the Kingston side of Comb Hill, is a conduit, which was executed under the direction of Cardinal Wolsey, to convey water under the Thames, to the palace of Hampton Court.

Market on Saturday; fairs, Whit-Thursday, 2 August, and 13 November; number of houses, 726; inhabitants, 4,144.

LAMBETH PALACE, erected at different periods, possesses little appearance of uniformity. The edifice, though old, is strong. The corners are faced with rustic, the top surrounded with battlements, the principal apartments well proportioned, and well lighted. Some of the rooms are close and confined; but many are open and pleasant, and afford very agreeable prospects, both up and down the river. When viewed from the river, this palace, with the trees in front, and the church of Lambeth adjoining, presents a picturesque appearance. An excellent library founded in this palace by Archbishop Sancroft, has been greatly increased by Archbishops Abbot, Sheldon, and Tennison.—The palace is now the general residence of the Archbishop of Canterbury. The church is an antique structure, dedicated to St. Mary.

LEATHERHEAD, about 19 miles from London, is a small town on the Mole, consisting principally of four streets. The church is an ancient building, with a nave, two aisles, and two transepts, and is adorned with several monuments.

Fairs, 8th September, 10th October. Number of houses, 217. Inhabitants, 1,209.

LEITH HILL, near Dorking, the highest point in this county, commands a very extensive prospect, including

the whole of Surry, the hills of Berkshire and Oxfordshire, part of Hampshire, and Wiltshire, the sea, and London. LEITH HILL PLACE, on the southern side of this hill, is a small elegant mansion. The proprietor of this estate in 1766, Richard Hull, Esq., constructed a tower on Leith Hill, whence the sea is visible through a gap in the South Downs. In this building he fitted up a room for the accommodation of visiters, which is now walled up, and the tower only serves as a sea-mark.

LOTHESLEY, or LOSLEY HOUSE, two miles from Guildford, is a large stone mansion, in the centre of a beautiful park. The house contains a fine collection of portraits, amongst which may be noticed Lord Chancellor More, Queen Anne Boleyn, and Sir William More, who built this edifice. On the staircase is an allegorical representation of the good effects of a virtuous life, and the evil tendency of vice. In the gallery are two needle-work chairs, with cushions worked by Queen Elizabeth, who often visited this house.

MERSTHAM, near Ryegate, is remarkable for its quarries of stone. The church contains a curious font of Sussex marble, highly polished, and finely executed.

MERTON, seven miles from London, is remarkable for the remains of an ancient convent of Augustine canons, founded in 1115. The parish church of St. Mary is supposed to have been erected in the reign of Henry I. *Merton Place*, in this parish, was the residence of Lord Nelson.

MORTLAKE, seven miles from London, is remarkable as the burial-place of several celebrated men, amongst whom may be mentioned, Dr. Dee, and Partridge, the astrologers, Sir John Barnard, Sir Brook Watson, and Alderman Barber.

MOOR PARK, two miles from Farnham, was the seat of that famous statesman Sir W. Temple, and here he expired. His heart was buried under the sun-dial in the garden, in a silver box, by his own direction. Here Swift formed his first acquaintance with his beloved Stella. In the southern extremity of the park, about three quarters of a mile from the house, is a curious grotto, called *Mother Ludlam's Hole*. It is situated in the side of a hill, and is hewn out of the sand-stone rock; its

greatest heigh, its twelve feet, and it is about twenty feet in breadth.

NORBURY PARK is situated in the parish of Mickleham. The mansion stands on a hill, and is one of the finest seats of the county; the rooms are painted with representations of the mountains and lakes in Westmoreland and Cumberland. The park is very extensive, pleasantly varied, and remarkable for the number and beauty of its walnut-trees. At a short distance is BOX HILL, commanding a view of London and the greater part of Middlesex, together with the country as far as the Sussex Downs. For the convenience of persons visiting this charming spot, an excellent hotel, possessing all the comforts of a private house, has been established on the high road, at the foot of the hill. In one of the rooms are some lines written by the celebrated Mrs. Barbauld, after viewing the fascinating scenery of this delightful situation. The guests are waited on by the proprietor of the house and his own family.

OATLANDS, adjoining Weybridge, is the seat of the Duke of York, who purchased it of the late Duke of Newcastle. The park is four miles round. The house is situated about the middle of the terrace. Its majestic grandeur, and the beautiful landscapes are most impressive. The Serpentine River, when seen from the terrace, appears as beautiful as if it were natural; and a stranger, who did not know the place, would conclude it to be the Thames; in which opinion he would be confirmed by the view of Walton Bridge over that river, which by a happy contrivance, is made to look like a bridge over the Serpentine River, and gives a pleasing finish to this delightful prospect. The grotto, which is uncommonly beautiful and romantic, was constructed by three persons, a father and his two sons, and is reported to have cost nearly 12,000*l*. A gate, erected from a design of Inigo Jones, has been removed a small distance from its original situation, and repaired, with the addition of an inscription, by the Duke of Newcastle. Her royal highness the Duchess of York passes much of her time here in an agreeable and pleasant retirement.

PUTNEY, four miles from London, is a village situated

on the Thames. Adjoining the church at this place is a small chapel, with a richly ornamented Gothic roof, and in the church-yard is buried Toland, the deistical writer. At the mansion called the Bowling Green House, died in 1806, the right honourable William Pitt. Gibbon the historian was born at this place in 1737.

RICHMOND, nine miles from London, is the finest, the most luxuriant, the most picturesque spot in the British dominions, and from the singular beauty of its situation, has been termed the *Frescati* and the *Montpellier* of England. Here stood a palace, in which our kings Edward I. and II. resided, and where Edward III. died of grief, for the loss of his heroic son the Black Prince. Here also died Anne, queen of Richard II., who first taught the English ladies the use of the side-saddle. Richard was so affected at her death, that he deserted and defaced the fine palace: but it was repaired by Henry V., who founded three religious houses near it. In 1497 it was destroyed by fire; but Henry VII. rebuilt it, and commanded that the village should be called Richmond, he having borne the title of Earl of Richmond before he obtained the crown; and here he died. Queen Elizabeth was a prisoner in this palace for a short time, during the reign of her sister. When she became queen, it was one of her favourite places of residence; and here she closed her illustrious career. It was afterwards the residence of Henry Prince of Wales; and Bishop Duppa is said to have educated Charles II. here. The remains of this palace are converted into private residences. There was formerly a park adjoining Richmond Green, called the Old or Little Park, to distinguish it from the extensive one made by Charles I., and called the New Park. In this Old Park was a lodge, the lease of which was granted, in 1707, for ninety-nine years, to James duke of Ormond, who rebuilt the house, and resided there till his impeachment in 1715, when he retired to Paris. Not far from the site of the lodge stands the observatory, built by Sir William Chambers in 1769. On the top of the building is a moveable dome, which contains an equatorial instrument. The observatory contains also a collection of subjects in natural history, well preserved; an excellent apparatus for philosophical experiments, some models, and

a collection of ores from His Majesty's mines in the forest of Hartz in Germany. A part of the Old Park is now a dairy and grazing farm; the remainder constitutes the royal gardens. The banks along the margin of the Thames are judiciously varied, forming a noble terrace, which extends the whole length of the gardens; in the S. E. quarter of which a road leads to a sequestered spot, in which is a cottage that exhibits the most elegant simplicity. Here is a collection of curious foreign and domestic beasts, as well as of rare and exotic birds. Having been a favourite retreat of her Majesty, this cottage was kept in great neatness. At the foot of Richmond Hill, on the Thames, is the villa of the Duke of Buccleugh. From the lawn there is a subterraneous communication with the pleasure grounds on the opposite side of the road. Near this is the charming residence of Lady Diana Beauclerc, who has herself decorated one of the rooms with lilacs and other flowers, in the same manner as at her former residence of Twickenham. Here likewise are the villas of Lady Morshead, the Earl of Cardigan, Marquess Townshend, Miss Darell, &c. On Richmond Green is a house that belonged to the late Viscount Fitzwilliam, whose maternal grandfather, Sir Matthew Decker, Bart., an eminent Dutch merchant, built a room here for the reception of George I. In this house is an ancient painting of Richmond Palace, by Vinkeboom; and there is another, said to be the work of one of Rubens's scholars, and supposed to represent the Lodge in the Old Park, before it was pulled down by the Duke of Ormond. The Green is surrounded by lofty elms; and at one corner of it is a theatre, in which, during the summer season, dramatic entertainments are performed. The town runs up the hill, above a mile, from East Sheen to the New Park, with the Royal Gardens, sloping all the way to the Thames. Here are four almshouses; one of them built by Bishop Duppa, in the reign of Charles II., for ten poor widows, pursuant to a vow he made during that Prince's exile. An elegant stone bridge, of five semi-circular arches, from a design by Paine, was erected here in 1777. The summit of Richmond Hill commands a luxuriant prospect, and is certainly one of the finest situations in the world. Thomson's residence,

Rossdale House, in Kew-foot-lane, was purchased after the poet's death by George Ross, Esq., who, out of veneration to his memory, forbore to pull it down, but enlarged and improved it at the expense of 9,000*l*. Mrs. Boscawen repaired the poet's favourite seat in the garden, and placed in it the table on which he wrote his verses. Over the entrance is inscribed;

"Here Thomson sung the Seasons and their change."

The inside is adorned with suitable quotations from authors who have paid due compliments to his talents; and in the centre is an elegant inscription. Thomson was buried at the west end of the north aisle of Richmond church. There was nothing to point out the spot of his interment, till a brass tablet, with the following inscription, was put up by the Earl of Buchan:—"In the earth below this tablet are the remains of James Thomson, author of the beautiful poems entitled 'The Seasons,' 'The Castle of Indolence,' &c., who died at Richmond on the 22d of August, and was buried there on the 29th, O. S., 1748. The Earl of Buchan, unwilling that so good a man and sweet a poet should be without a memorial, has denoted the place of his interment for the satisfaction of his admirers, in the year of our Lord, 1792." Underneath is this quotation from his "Winter:"

"Father of Light and Life! Thou Good Supreme!
O, teach me what is good! teach me Thyself!
Save me from folly, vanity, and vice,
From every low pursuit! and feed my soul
With knowledge, conscious peace, and virtue pure;
Sacred, substantial, never-fading bliss!"

This town contains 875 houses, and 5,219 inhabitants.

RICHMOND PARK, formerly called the Great or the New Park, to distinguish it from that which was near the Green, was made by Charles I. Sir Robert Walpole (afterward Earl of Orford) was fond of hunting in this park; and his son, Robert lord Walpole, being the ranger, built the Great Lodge for him, and thus paid nobly for his amusement. This is an elegant stone edifice, with wings on each side, of brick. It stands on a rising ground, and commands a very good prospect of the park, especially of

the fine piece of water. When Lord Walpole, afterward second Earl of Orford, died, the Princess Amelia was appointed ranger. While it was in her hands, the public right to a footway through the Park was established by the issue of a trial at law, in 1758, at Kingston assizes; in consequence of which decision, ladder-gates were put up at some of the entrances. Here also is another lodge, called the Stone Lodge. This park is eight miles in circumference, and contains 2,253 acres.

RUNNYMEAD, a short distance from Egham, will ever be remembered as the spot where, in 1215, the Barons compelled King John to consent to the signing of Magna Charta, the foundation of English liberty. The document is said to have been signed on an island in the Thames, still called Charter Island. Egham races are annually held on this mead, on the 4th, 5th and 6th of September.

RYEGATE, or REIGATE, 21 miles from London, consists principally of two streets, one of which runs north and south, and the other east and west. It stands on a rock of fine white sand, and formerly carried on an extensive trade in oat-meal. It sends two members to parliament. The church, at the western end of the town, is built of chalk or lime-stone, with an embattled tower of hewn stone, and is ornamented with several monuments. The market-house and town-hall form one small brick building, contiguous to which is the clock-house, intended to be used as a prison. The priory, a modern house, belonging to Lord Somers, stands on the site of a convent of Augustines, founded in 1240. Of its castle no remains now exist.

Market on Tuesday, and one on Wednesday every month. Fàirs, Whitsunday, and 14th September. Number of houses, 436. Inhabitants, 2,440.

ST. ANN'S HILL, one mile from Chertsey, commands extensive and delightful prospects of the surrounding country. On the south side stands the residence of the late Charles James Fox, a handsome house, with gardens and grounds laid out with great taste. On this hill likewise is MONK'S GROVE, a neat brick mansion, with gardens which appear to have been cut out of the hill. In

a grove near the garden are the ruins of a chapel, or cell, erected there for the monks of Chertsey, and at a short distance is a spring possessing medicinal properties.

SOUTHWARK. See MIDDLESEX, Article LONDON, and LEIGH'S NEW PICTURE OF LONDON.

STREATHAM PARK, five miles from London, a mansion formerly belonging to Mr. Thrale, is remarkable for having often afforded a retreat to Dr. Johnson. It contains a fine collection of pictures by Sir Joshua Reynolds. The grounds are extensive, and encircled by a shrubbery and gravel walk. In the church are Latin inscriptions by Dr. Johnson, to the memory of Mr. Thrale, and Mrs. Salusbury, the mother of Mrs. Piozzi.

WAVERLEY ABBEY, near Moor Park, is a neat mansion of modern erection. The centre is adorned with pilasters of the Ionic order, and has two wings. At a short distance from the house are the ruins of the abbey, which was the first Cistercian convent founded in England. The ruins, extending over three or four acres, are overgrown with ivy. From the vestiges of the church it appears to have been a large and magnificent structure. Part of the aisle, chancel, and tower, of the church, together with portions of the dormitory, refectory, and cloisters, still exist.

WIMBLEDON COMMON, seven miles from London. At the south-western extremity of this heath, is a circular encampment, about 200 paces in diameter, supposed to have been made in the sixth century. In one of the villas with which this common is adorned, died John Horne Tooke, in 1812. Adjoining this house are country-seats, belonging to Lord Melbourne, and Sir Francis Burdett.

WOTTON HOUSE, near Dorking, is remarkable as having been the birth-place of John Evelyn, the celebrated author of Sylva. The table, mentioned by him, consisting of one plank, five feet two inches in diameter, still remains. He is interred with several members of his family, in the church of Wotton.



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THE STEYNE BRIGHTON.

SUSSEX.

Length 70 miles. Breadth 28. Circumference 195. Square miles 1,461. Square acres 935,040. Hundreds 65. Market-towns 16. Parishes 312. Houses 30,968. Persons 196,500.—Diocese of Chichester.—Home Circuit.—Members to Parliament 28.—Militia-men 800.

BOUNDARIES.—SUSSEX is bounded on the north, by Surry; on the east and north-east, by the county of Kent; on the south, by the British Channel; and on the west, by Hampshire. The climate in the western part of the sea district is mild, and particularly favourable to vegetation; but in those parts of the South Down hills exposed to the south-west, the air is very bleak, and the winds often very boisterous. The waste-lands in this county are very considerable; and, when their contiguity to the metropolis, and the numerous turnpike-roads in every direction intersecting these desert tracts, are considered, their unproductive state must be attributed either to the want of agricultural skill, or to the natural sterility of the soil. There is no land so sterile that may not be made profitable; in rich soils, the foliage of the forest yields to the bearded corn or the luxuriant grass; in poorer soils, corn and grass, in their turn, yield to the superior growth of the larch, the pine, and the beech. The roads in this county are in general good, which is attributed to the use of those excellent materials called whinstone and Kentish rag. The buildings in this county, appropriated to the use of the nobility and gentry, are on a useful as well as splendid construction, and exceeded by few districts in this kingdom. Stone and flint are generally employed in farm buildings, and tiles are often made use of in facing houses. The cottages are, in general, warm and comfortable, being principally composed of stone or flint.

SOIL.—With respect to soil, this county may be said to consist of five general divisions. Chalk forms the prevailing soil of the South Down hills; clay occupies the

Weald, or woodland district; sand is found chiefly in the northern parts; loam pervades the north side of the hills; and gravel abounds between the loam on the coast and the chalk. Besides these, an extensive tract of marsh-land, consisting of sand and rotten vegetable substances, extends along the borders of the sea-coast, between Kent and the eastern extremity of the South Downs. Lime-stone is found in great abundance in the eastern parts of the Weald, and is considered remarkably good, particularly for cement. Sussex marble rivals most other kinds for the making of chimney-pieces, and forms an excellent stone for building and paving; it is likewise used as a manure, and by some persons is considered better than chalk. Chalk and iron-stone abound in this county; and fuller's-earth is dug at Tillington. At Chidham, Graffham, and other places on the coast, red-ochre is found in considerable quantities.

AGRICULTURE.—Different parts of this county present different proportions of arable and pasture land. On the south side of the Downs arable prevails; but the Weald may be divided into three portions of about equal dimensions, wood and waste, arable and pasture. Fallowing prevails in the stiff soils, but not in the rich; and the rotation of crops varies according to the nature of the land. The crops principally grown are wheat, oats, clover, barley, potatoes, turnips, pease, tares, and hedge-wheat. The farmers occasionally cultivate buck-wheat, beans, lettuces, carrots, hops, sainfoin, chicory, lucerne, rhubarb, and opium; the two latter are grown for medicinal purposes. Meadow and pasture land are greatly neglected in this county, and irrigation is but little known. In the vicinity of Petworth excellent cider is produced, and a considerable number of orchards is found in the western part. The manures principally used are common dung, lime, chalk, soap, coal, peat, and wood-ashes; sheep-clippings, rags, and gypsum. The Sussex cattle are equal to any in the kingdom, and a considerable number of the oxen are used for agricultural purposes, though seldom put to such work as would prevent their fattening. The cows produce milk, excellent in quality, but small in quantity. The rearing of calves forms a profitable pursuit in this county; but Sussex is

principally celebrated for its sheep, called South Down, which are rapidly spreading over every part of the kingdom. The flesh of these animals is fine in grain, and bears a relative proportion to the fine texture of the down wool, which, as well as the mutton, is excelled by no breed in England, except the Ryland and the Merino, with their admixtures. The total number of sheep kept in this county may be estimated at 4 or 500,000. Large quantities of rabbits are fed on the waste-lands, and sent to the London market, as well as poultry. In the Weald are a great number of ponds, in which are fish of various kinds. Most proprietors occupy farms, and set a laudable example to their less-informed neighbours; and among the agricultural benefactors of this county will be long remembered the Earl of Egremont and Lord Sheffield. Farms are more extensive and better managed on the dry soils than on the wet. Their average extent in the Weald does not exceed 100*l*. per annum, while on the South Downs the average is not less than 350*l*. Rents vary very much in the Weald; there are not less than 100,000 acres let from 1*s*. to 1*s*. 6*d*. per acre, while in the marsh land on the coast, land is rented from 50*s*. to 60*s*. per acre.

RIVERS.—The principal streams of this county are the Ouse, the Adur, the Rother, the Arun, and the Lavant.

The OUSE is formed by the confluence of two small streams, one rising in the forest of St. Leonard, and the other in that of Worth; they unite near Cuckfield, and, after flowing southward to Lewes, the Ouse enters the sea at Newhaven.

The ADUR, or BEEDING, has its source in St. Leonard's Forest, whence it proceeds to the south by Steyning and Bramber as far as Shoreham, where it turns to the east, and falls into the ocean near Brighton.

The ROTHER rises at Rotherfield, and, running eastward, divides into two small streams on the borders of Kent, which again unite and form the Island of Oxney; it then widens into an estuary near Rye, and discharges its water into the sea.

The ARUN rises in St. Leonard's Forest, and is famous for its mullets, trout, and eels. It first flows in a western

direction, but afterwards turns to the south, and, passing by Arundel, falls into the British Channel at Little Hampton.

The LAVANT has its source near East Dean, and, after nearly encircling Chichester, flows on to the sea, near which it produces excellent lobsters.

Remarkable Places.

ARUNDEL, 12 miles from Chichester, is a borough and market town, on the declivity of a hill, on the north-west bank of the Arun. It sends two members to parliament; and is governed by a mayor, 12 burgesses, a steward, and other officers. The church at the northern end of the town, is a fine Gothic structure, containing several monuments of the Earls of Arundel, as well as of the Howards. Near the church is an ancient range of building, part of which is used as a Roman Catholic chapel. The theatre is a neat building; and there is a stone bridge over the river.

Markets on Wednesday and Saturday. Houses, 417; inhabitants, 2,188.

ARUNDEL CASTLE, the seat of the Duke of Norfolk, formerly a place of great strength and celebrity, existed in the time of King Alfred. It is a Gothic building, ornamented in the most delicate style. The late Duke destroyed a considerable part of the ancient building, in order to form the whole into a quadrangle, a considerable part of which is now finished. The ground-floor is principally occupied with the domestic apartments; an elegant staircase leads to the first floor, in which, besides numerous other rooms, is a fine library; the doors, book-cases, and windows, of which are of polished mahogany, beautifully carved. In the anti-room is a fine painting of the Nativity by Murillo. The chapel is adorned with a painted window, in which the late Duke and Duchess are represented as Solomon and the Queen of Sheba. Over the door is the subject of Adam and Eve, executed by Le Brun, in imitation of *basso relievo*. The baron's hall is adorned with a fine painted window, representing the signing of Magna Charta, and numerous other paintings on glass of the family of the Howards.

The keep and part of the walls are the only vestiges of the ancient ruins.

ASHBURNHAM HOUSE, nine miles from Hastings, is a handsome modern building, situated in the centre of a park well stocked with deer, and containing numerous fine trees. The rooms are adorned with many capital pictures, by Lely, Vandyck, and other great masters. In the church are many handsome monuments of the Ashburnham family.

BATTLE, formerly called Epiton, 26 miles from Tonbridge, derived its present name from the celebrated battle which took place between William the Conqueror, and Harold, King of England; it consists of one street running from north-west to south-east. The church is a handsome building, the windows of the north aisle of which are adorned with painted glass. In the vicinity of this place are mills, where gunpowder of excellent quality is made.

Markets on Thursday, and second Tuesday every month. Houses, 364; inhabitants, 2,531.

BATTLE ABBEY stands on a gentle eminence near the town. The ruins occupy three sides of a square, consisting of a gateway, two long parallel walls, and a dwelling-house. The only remains of the abbey church are nine elegant arches on the outside of the house. Near this spot are the ruins of the hall, and under it are free-stone crypts.

BAYHAM ABBEY, near Tonbridge Wells, was founded by Premonstratensian canons in the twelfth century, but in 1714 became the property of Lord Camden, the Chief Justice of the King's Bench, and now belongs to the Marquis Camden. The remains of this abbey consist of part of the refectory, some portion of the cloisters, the nave of the church, and the gateway. The church contains some beautiful Gothic windows.

BEACHY HEAD. The cliffs known by this name commence a short distance from East Bourne, and extend as far as Burling Gap; they are 575 feet in height, and on one of the highest parts are two pieces of cannon, and a signal station. Beachy Head is celebrated for the defeat of the English and Dutch fleet by the French, on the 30th of June, 1690. On the west side of the cliffs

is a cavern, containing two apartments, called Parson Darby's Hole, in consequence of its having been inhabited for two years by a clergyman, who lived here as a hermit.

BIGNOR, 11 miles from Arundel, at a short distance from the Roman road from Dorking to Chichester, is remarkable for three Roman mosaic pavements, which were discovered here in 1811, in a field called Oldbury; they appear to have formed part of the rooms of a Roman villa, the foundation of the walls having been traced. Bignor was the birth-place of Mrs. Charlotte Smith.

BODIHAM CASTLE, belonging to Sir Godfrey Webster, is situated on the river Rother, near the village of the same name, nine miles from Winchelsea. The castle is a square building, surrounded by a moat. At each angle is a circular tower, with a gate on the north and south side, and a square tower on the east and west side. The grand entrance is remarkably noble, being flanked with two machicolated towers, and surmounted by three escutcheons of arms. The whole building is covered with ivy, which produces a very picturesque effect.

BOGNOR, 6½ miles from Chichester, till lately consisted of only a few fishermen's huts, but is now composed of brick and stone buildings, extending about a mile in length. The principal rows are, the Crescent, Hothamton Place, East Row, Spencer Terrace, and Rock Buildings. The latter are all lodging-houses, at the west end of the place. Bognor has a chapel, erected by Sir Richard Hotham, who first gave popularity to this place. It is likewise furnished with a handsome hotel, a subscription room, a library, a warm sea-bath, and numerous bathing-machines.—HALNAKER HOUSE, near Bognor, is remarkable for containing two curfews, which are as old as William the Conqueror.

BRAMBER, half a mile from Steyning, though now an insignificant village, was once a place of considerable importance. It returns two members to parliament, and the number of voters is 36. Number of houses, 25; inhabitants, 95.

BRIGHTON, or BRIGHTHELMSTONE, 50 miles from London, stands on a gentle declivity, and is pro-

tected from the north and north-east winds by a range of hills. The soil in the vicinity is dry, and the air is particularly salubrious. The town is not incorporated, but is governed by a constable and eight headboroughs. Brighton is divided into New and Old by the Steyne, the Parade, and the New Steyne, which form a line, running from north to south. The Steyne, a charming lawn, surrounded, except on the side towards the sea, with handsome houses, forms a delightful evening promenade, and, during the season, is enlivened by the performance of a band of music: part of it is paved with red tiles or bricks. The Marine Parade, commanding a fine sea view, is likewise much frequented as a promenade. Although the coast here is considerably exposed, there is every possible convenience for sea-bathing. At the lower part of the Steyne are fitted up cold, hot, and shower baths; and about half a mile west of the church is a chalybeate spring, the waters of which have been found efficacious in cases of debility and indigestion. The principal building in Brighton is the Marine Pavilion, the residence of his Royal Highness the Prince Regent. It is situated on the north-west side of the Steyne, with a front 200 feet in length, looking towards the sea. In the west front is the grand entrance, opening into pleasure-grounds; the interior is furnished in the most costly and magnificent style; the decorations are chiefly in the Chinese taste, and are unequalled in splendour; the stables, built on the north side of the pleasure-grounds in the Moorish style, are far superior to every establishment of the kind in the kingdom. The church of Brighton is situated at the north-west extremity of the town, and has a square tower, with a fine set of bells; the interior is neat, and the font, said to have been brought from Normandy at the time of the Conquest, is curiously ornamented with scriptural or legendary subjects. In the church-yard is a handsome monument to the memory of Mrs. Crouch. The Chapel Royal is a commodious building, erected in 1793: and there are several meeting-houses, as well as a Roman Catholic Chapel, and a Jews' Synagogue. The new chapel, belonging to Mr. Kemp, who was formerly member for Lewes, is a very elegant structure, fitted up with exquisite tate. The market-

house is a neat and convenient building, erected in 1734. The charitable institutions are, the workhouse, two free-schools, the Union charity-school, two Lancasterian schools, a Sunday-school, and a school of industry. The theatre is a handsome building, with two tiers of boxes and a gallery; the Prince's box is fitted up with great elegance. The Royal Circus, opened in 1808, is principally designed for the exhibition of horsemanship. Brighton is furnished with several libraries, and assemblies are held at the Castle Tavern, and at the Old Ship Tavern. The ball-room at the former house is tastefully decorated with paintings, illustrating the story of Cupid and Psyche. The fisheries at this place afford employment to about 100 boats, and about 300 men, who are dexterous seamen. A great quantity of fish caught here is sent to London. At the west end of the town is a battery of six 42-pounders, and in Church and West Street are barracks. About a mile from the town is a fine race-ground, with a convenient stand for the spectators.

Market-days, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Fairs, on Holy Thursday, and September 4. Number of houses, 2,458; inhabitants, 12,012.

CHICHESTER, 62½ miles from London, a city and bishop's see, is situated on a gentle eminence, almost surrounded by the river Lavant. It consists principally of four spacious and well paved streets, meeting in one common centre, and named after the four cardinal points. The city sends two members to parliament, and is governed by a mayor, recorder, aldermen, and common council. The principal building is the cathedral, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, which was erected in the 12th century, although it has received considerable repairs since that period. The steeple, which is an elegant stone structure, appears to have been raised in the 13th century. The lady chapel attached to the cathedral, and built by William de Sancto Leofardo, is an elegant building, now fitted up as a library. The choir is adorned with fine carved oak stalls, which were erected by Bishop Shurborne, in the reign of Henry VIII., who likewise superintended the execution of the fine paintings, by Bernardi, in the south transept. In this transept also, are portraits of all

the Kings of England, from William the Conqueror, to George I., and of all the Bishops of Selsea and Chichester, till the time of the Reformation. The vaulting of the church is finely painted with flowers, arms, and other ornaments. In the choir is the marble monument of Bishop Shurborne, who was buried here in 1536. The chantry of St. Richard, in the south transept, is a beautiful specimen of Gothic workmanship. In the nave is a tablet executed by Flaxman, to the memory of the poet Collins, who was born and died in this city. In the cloisters is buried William Chillingworth, the celebrated champion of Protestantism. The foundation of this cathedral consists of a dean, precentor, chancellor, treasurer, two archdeacons, 30 prebendaries, four vicars, and a choir. The bishop's palace is a handsome edifice, containing a magnificent dining room, ornamented with pictures, and windows of painted glass: the chapel is a beautiful building of the 13th century, and the gardens include a fine terrace walk. The Deanery is an excellent house, built by the famous Bishop Sherlock, and pleasantly situated. The friary, near the north gate, is supposed to have been built prior to the Conquest. Its chapel has been converted into the guildhall, a spacious, but not an elegant building. Chichester has seven parish churches, and several meeting-houses. The council room is an Ionic building in North Street, and adjoining it is an elegant assembly room erected in 1781. The theatre is a handsome and commodious building. The custom-house is situated in West Street, and the market-house is large and convenient. The cross in the centre of the town was originally built in 1475, but repaired in 1746, it is of an octangular form, and is one of the most elegant erections in the kingdom: each of its sides consists of an entrance, over which is a tablet, and above that a dial showing the hour. In the centre is a large column, the base of which forms a seat. The charitable institutions of Chichester are the grammar school, the free school, two charity schools, a workhouse, St. Mary's hospital, and a dispensary. Bishop Juxon, who attended King Charles on the scaffold, was a native of this place.

Markets on Wednesday and Saturday. Fairs on St. George's day, Whit Monday, St. James's day, and

Michaelmas day. Number of houses, 1,125. Inhabitants, 6,425.

EAST BOURNE, seven miles from Hailsham, is a bathing place, at the foot of a lofty hill, and consists of four divisions; Sea Houses, Meades, South Bourne, and East Bourne; the two former are situated on the sea coast, and the two latter about a mile and a half from it. Persons wishing to bathe, generally reside at the Sea Houses, near which, bathing machines are kept. The church is a handsome building, with a fine old tower. Amongst the places of amusement may be mentioned the circulating library, the theatre, in South Bourne, and the subscription ball room at the Lamb Inn. About a mile from the Sea Houses is Holywell, where there is a chalybeate spring, but it is not much used; although said to produce the same beneficial effects as the Bristol waters.

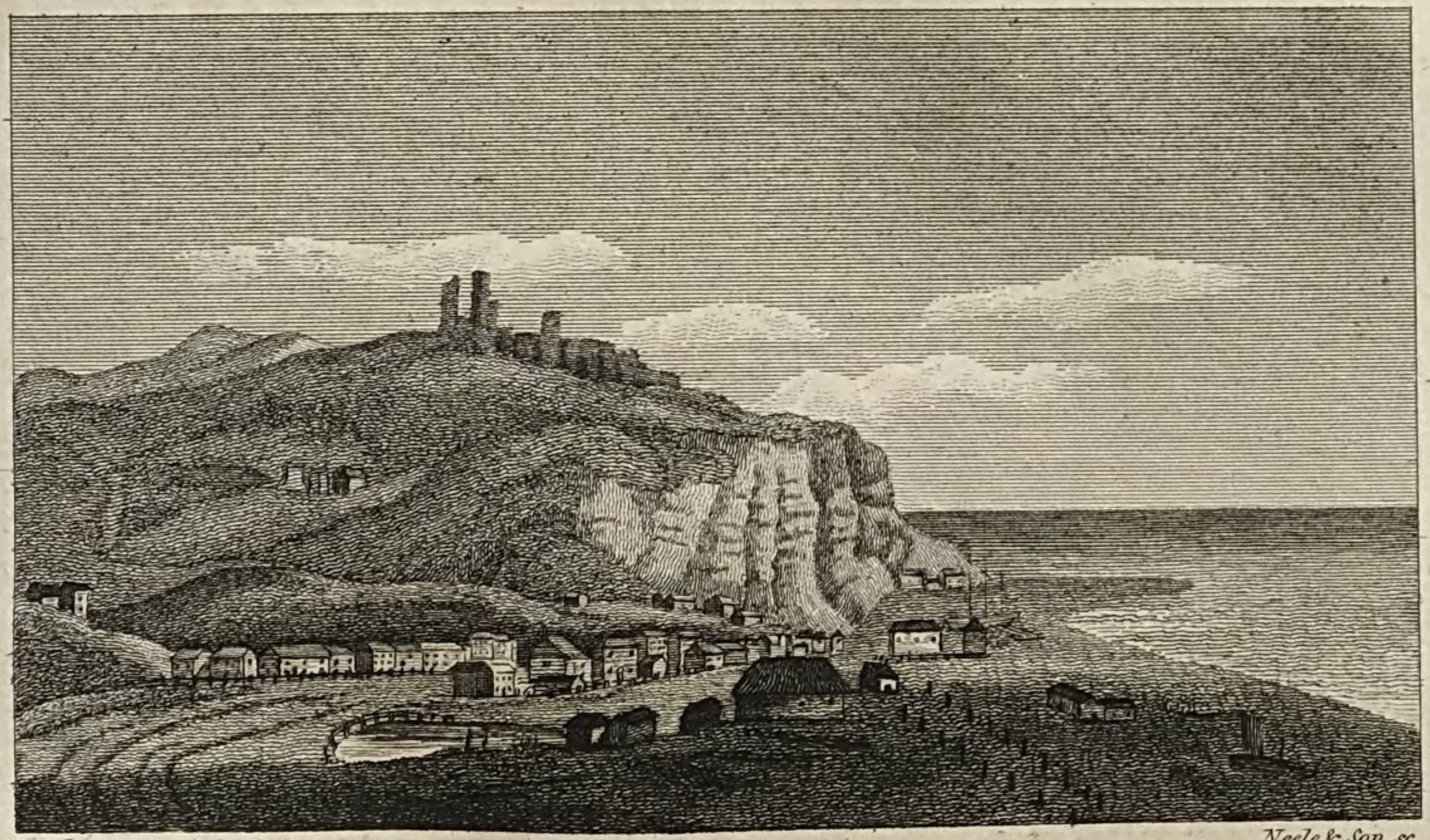
Fairs, 10 October. Number of houses, 125. Inhabitants, 720.

EAST GRINSTEAD, 19 miles from Croydon, is a market town, pleasantly situated on an eminence, but irregularly built. The church is a large and handsome building, with a lofty spire. At the east end of the town is Sackville College, erected in 1616, and endowed for the support of 24 aged persons of both sexes, and there is likewise a free school. East Grinstead sends two members to parliament.

Market on Thursday. Fairs, 21 April, 13 July, and 11 December. Number of houses, 450. Inhabitants, 2,804.

ERIDGE CASTLE, the seat of Earl Abergavenny, two miles from Tunbridge Wells, is an irregular and castellated edifice, standing in a well-wooded park of about 2,000 acres. The original mansion, on the site of which the present is built, was visited in 1573, by Queen Elizabeth. The waters of Tunbridge Wells were first discovered by Dudley, Lord North, whilst on a visit to this house. In the park are the remains of a Saxon fortification.

GOODWOOD, three miles from Chichester, the seat of the Duke of Richmond, is delightfully situated in an extensive park. The mansion is a handsome building, with a portico of six Ionic columns, on which rests ano-



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HASTINGS.

ther, with the same number of Doric pillars, surmounted by a balustrade. The stables and offices form an elegant quadrangular building, and the kennel for hounds is perhaps the best in England. The gardens are large, and are laid out with great taste. In the park is Cairney seat, a beautiful pleasure-house, commanding a magnificent prospect. On a hill, near the park, is a race-course, which is generally made use of in April or May. On a stone pedestal, at the Duke of Richmond Inn, is preserved the head of Commodore Anson's ship, the Centurion, in which he circumnavigated the globe.

HASTINGS, seven miles from Battle, situated in a delightful valley, sloping towards the sea, chiefly consists of two streets; High Street, and Fish Street, which are separated by a small stream called the Bourne. There are three parishes, St. Clement's, All Saints, and St. Mary's in the Castle, but only the first two have churches. The town hall, erected in 1700, contains a shield, bearing the arms of France, presented to the corporation by General Murray, who brought it from Quebec; the lower part of the building is used as a market-house. At the western extremity of the stade or beech is a fort defended by eleven 12-pounders. Many of the inhabitants are employed in boat-building, fishing, and in the conveyance of chalk, from the Holywell pits, at Beachy Head. Herrings, mackerel, and trawl fish, are caught here in great abundance, and sent to the metropolis. Hastings has of late years been much frequented for sea-bathing, for which the situation is admirably adapted. Between 20 and 30 bathing machines are kept near the parade, a pleasant walk formed at the west end of the town. Hastings is furnished with convenient warm baths; several circulating libraries, and assemblies, are held weekly at the Swan Inn. On a rocky cliff, a short distance west of the town, are the ruins of the castle, and near them formerly stood a priory of Black Canons, part of the walls of which are the only remaining fragments.

Markets on Wednesday and Saturday. Fairs, 26 July, and 23 October. Number of houses, 710. Inhabitants, 3,848

HORSHAM, 13 miles from Dorking, is a borough and market town on the Arun. It returns two members to parliament, and is governed by a steward, two bailiffs,

and two constables. The church is a fine old building, with a lofty spire of slate and lead, and contains several monuments. The town-hall is a handsome Gothic building, erected at the expense of the late Duke of Norfolk. The county gaol is a commodious edifice, at the south entrance of the town. Horsham has a good market-house, two free schools, and several meeting-houses. Near Horsham, is Hill Place, a splendid seat belonging to the Duke of Norfolk.

Markets on Saturday, and last Tuesday in every month. Fairs, Monday before Whitsunday, 18 July, and Saturday following 16 and 27 November. Number of house, 638. Inhabitants, 3,839.

LEWES, eight miles from Brighton, is an ancient borough and market town, on a declivity, watered by the Ouse. It sends two members to parliament. The streets are mostly spacious, and very clean. Some remains of the castle built in the time of William the Conqueror, and vestiges of the priory, which was the first in England of the Cluniac order, still exist. Before the Reformation, Lewes contained 12 parish churches, but there are now only six, St. Peter's, and St. Mary Westout, or St. Ann's. St. Michael in Foro, St. John sub Castro, All Saints, St. John Baptist Southover, and St. Thomas in the Cliffe. St. John's sub Castro is an ancient building in the centre of a small oval camp, and is remarkable for containing a curious ancient inscription, supposed to have been executed in the reign of Edward III. Over the communion table is a fine picture of the Presentation of Children to our Saviour. In St. John's, Southover, is a marble tablet, in which it is stated that Gundred, the daughter of William the Conqueror, is buried here. Lewes has several meeting-houses, a free grammar school, a theatre, and a book society. The Shire hall is an elegant and convenient building, and the house of correction, erected in 1794, is built on Mr. Howard's plan. The meetings of the Sussex Agricultural Society take place at Lewes, and assemblies are often held at the Star Inn. On a hill, half a mile from the town, is a fine race-course, considered one of the best in England. A stand for the accommodation of the company was erected in 1772. On this hill, in 1264, was fought a bloody battle between Henry III, and the

barons, under the Earl of Leicester, when the king was defeated, and, together with his brother, taken prisoner.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, 6 May, Whit-Tuesday, and 6 October. Number of houses, 945. Inhabitants, 6,221.

MIDHURST, 12 miles from Chichester, is a borough town, on the river Arun. It sends two members to parliament, who are elected by the burgage holders. The church in the centre of the town is a small square building, in which is the tomb of the Montague family. The town-hall was formerly used for the quarter sessions. It has a free grammar school. In a valley, near the Arun, at a short distance from Chichester, stand the picturesque ruins of COWDRAY HOUSE, formerly the magnificent residence of the family of Montague.

Market on Thursday. Fairs, 5 April, Whit-Tuesday, and 29 November. Number of houses, 199. Inhabitants, 1,256.

PETWORTH, 12 miles from Arundel, is a market town, on a branch of the Arun. The streets are irregular, but the houses well-built. The church is a stone building, containing the remains of many of the Percies, Earls of Northumberland. The market house in the centre of the town is a handsome stone building, ornamented with a bust of William III. Petworth has a bridewell, a charity school, an hospital, and alms-houses.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, Holy Thursday, and 20 November. Number of houses, 453. Inhabitants, 2,459.

PETWORTH HOUSE, 12 miles from Arundel, the seat of the Earl of Egremont. This magnificent mansion was erected by the Duke of Somerset, and has a fine front of freestone, ornamented with statues on the top. The interior is richly adorned with antique statues, busts and paintings. The park is very extensive, and is well stocked with various kinds of sheep and cattle, the noble proprietor being a liberal patron of agricultural improvements.

PEVENSEY, $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Hailsham, though now a place of little importance, is worthy of notice for its former celebrity. It was one of the sea-ports pillaged in the time of Edward the Confessor, and was the landing-place of William the Conqueror, and his army. The cas-

tle, which is the only vestige of its former greatness, is situated on the east side of the town, and from its construction, appears to be of Roman origin.

Fairs, 5 July. Number of houses, 50. Inhabitants, 254.

RYE, 64 miles from London, is a market town of great antiquity, situated on an eminence on the river Rother. It sends two members to parliament, and is governed by a mayor, jurats, and freemen. The church is a stone building, and is considered one of the largest parish churches in the kingdom. The market-place and town-hall stand in the centre of the town. Rye has a free grammar school, a free school, and numerous meeting-houses. Ipres Castle was originally built to defend the town, but was afterwards used as a court house, and is now converted into a prison. Some of the gates and parts of the walls are still standing, although in a state of ruin. The chapel of the house called the friary, is now used as a storehouse. Rye carries on a considerable trade in corn and malt, and employs several vessels in the transport of chalk from Holywell Pits. It has likewise considerable fisheries for herrings, mackerel, and flat fish.

Markets on Wednesday and Saturday. Fairs, on Whitmonday and 10 August. Number of houses, 476. Inhabitants, 2,681.

SEAFORD, 10 miles from Lewes, situated on the sea coast, between the rivers Ouse and Cuckmere, was formerly a place of considerable importance, and is still an incorporated town, and sends two members to parliament. The corporation consists of a bailiff, 12 jurats, and an indefinite number of freemen. The church is an ancient building, but its beauty has suffered considerably by modern alterations. Seaford is furnished with bathing machines, as well as with hot and cold baths for the accommodation of visiters.

Fairs, 13 March, and 25 July. Number of houses, 162. Inhabitants, 1,001.

SHEFFIELD PLACE, situated in the parish of Fletching, between East Grinstead and Lewes, formerly belonged to Godwin, Earl of Kent, but in 1769, fell into the hands of J. B. Holroyd, Esq., afterwards Baron

Sheffield. Since its original erection, it has been rebuilt in the Gothic style, and the interior is adorned with many fine pictures. The park contains about 600 acres, and the gardens about 100. The farm yard is fitted-up in the most commodious style, the noble proprietor being a distinguished agriculturist. In Fletching church are deposited the remains of Gibbon, the historian, and on his monument is an inscription by Dr. Parr.

SHOREHAM (NEW) six miles from Brighton, is a borough and market town, sending two members to parliament. The church is a large building, and is an interesting specimen of the union of the Saxon, and the early pointed style. The market-house is a handsome building of the Doric order. The chief business carried on here is ship building. OLD SHOREHAM, about half a mile from this place, was formerly a town of considerable importance. The bridge over the Adur is a light wooden structure.

Market on Saturday. Fair, 25 July. Number of houses, 168. Inhabitants, 770.

STANSTEAD HOUSE, eight miles from Chichester, is a noble quadrangular building, with two wings connected by an Ionic colonnade. On the top of the central part of the building, is an observatory. The windows of the house command a fine view of the Isle of Wight, Portsmouth, and the shipping at Spithead. The park consists of about 650 acres.

SLINDON, near Yapton, formerly a residence of the Archbishops of Canterbury, is an ancient and noble mansion, delightfully situated on an eminence in a well-wooded park, and commands a fine view of the sea, of Chichester cathedral, and other interesting objects. The interior is adorned in the modern style, and the library contains several portraits. In the chapel is a fine picture of Christ taken down from the Cross, together with paintings of St. Peter and St. Paul.

WINCHELSEA, three miles from Rye, is a borough and market town, governed by a mayor, and 12 jurats. It sends two members to parliament. The houses are well-built, and the streets regular. The church is a handsome building in the form of a cross, and is covered with thick ivy. A considerable portion of the priory of Grey

Friars still remains in a garden attached to a private house; the choir is a fine specimen of the Gothic style of architecture. The gaol and court house are antique buildings in the Saxon style. The three gates, New Gate, Strand Gate, and Land Gate, are in a ruinous condition, and parts of the walls are still standing. About two miles north-east of the town stands Winchelsea, or Camber Castle, which was built in 1539, by Henry VIII. The main walls are still entire.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, 14 May. Number of houses, 135. Inhabitants, 652.

WORTHING, 11 miles from Brighton, is a watering-place of modern growth, and only a few years ago consisted of fishermen's huts. The sands are perfectly level, and well adapted for bathing and promenading, and the town is sheltered from the north and east winds, by the hills of the South Downs. The principal ranges of buildings are the Steyne, Warwick Buildings, and Montague Place. The theatre is a neat building, of considerable size, and the market-place is a quadrangular area, surrounded by stalls. Worthing has a handsome chapel, and a meeting-house. There are several libraries, and warm baths, and numerous machines are kept on the beach for the accommodation of visiters. The rides and walks in the vicinity are particularly pleasing. The Miller's tomb, at a short distance, is much frequented during the summer; it commands a delightful view of the sea and adjacent country. Warwick House is the principal building; it was erected by the Earl of Warwick, but is now in other hands, and is generally let out to some family of distinction during the season.



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THE HOUSE IN WHICH SHAKSPEARE WAS BORN,
previous to the alteration in 1810.

WARWICKSHIRE.

Length 47 miles. Breadth 30. Circumference 210. Square miles 984. Square acres 629,760. Hundreds 5. Market towns 12. Parishes 200. Houses 46,157. Persons 236,400.—Diocese of Litchfield and Coventry and Worcester.—Midland Circuit.—Members to Parliament 6.—Militia-men 640.

BOUNDARIES.—Warwickshire is bounded on the north-east by Leicestershire, on the north-west by Staffordshire, on the south-east by Northamptonshire and Oxfordshire, on the west by Worcestershire, and on the south-west by Gloucestershire. The face of this county is pleasantly varied by hill and dale, except in some few parts where it has a dreary appearance. The highest part is the elevated ridge on which Corley and Hemlingford Hundred are situated, and from this rising ground the Avon on one side, and the Blythe, the Tame and Trent, on the other, receive great quantities of water. The Brailes and Edge hills on the south-east, are likewise considerably elevated. The climate is mild, and vegetation early. Property in this county is very unequally divided, many proprietors possessing very large estates; tenures are chiefly freehold, but there are some copyholds and church lands; the principal woodlands are found in the middle western and northern districts, but fine oaks, elms and coppices, abound in every part of the county.

The SOIL of this county is extremely varied, several kinds being often found in one enclosure, but the greater portion is well adapted to the purpose of agriculture. Round the city of Coventry, the ground which is chiefly employed in pasturage is a red and deep sandy loam, and the same character of soil pervades the tract, called the county of Coventry, interspersed with clay and strong land. The Hundred of Knightlow consists chiefly of a red clay loam and sand, with a bottom of freestone and limestone in some places, and of gravel in others; a rich clay loam on limestone and marl, strong clay loam on limestone rock, and a sandy land, with a mixture of gravel. Kineton hundred is a mixture of clay-loam or limestone, and strong,

poor and cold clay; a tract between Brails-hill, and Gaydon, and Knightcote is rich grass land. The soil on Barlichway Hundred, consists of a strong clay loam, or limestone rock and marl, together with fine dry red loam and saudy loam. Hemlingford Hundred is arable land, but the soil is very poor, nearly the whole consisting of moorish clay, on clay and marl, and dry sandy loam. The fossils and minerals found in this county consist of limestone, coal, freestone, blue flagstone, ironstone, marl and blue clay.

AGRICULTURE.—The great variety of soil in this county has given rise to different systems of agriculture. Horses are generally used for ploughing; drill husbandry has been applied by only a few individuals to the growth of beans, barley, pease and vetches. Although the soil is well adapted to wheat but little is grown; barley, raised on the dry loams after turnips, generally produces from five to six quarters per acre; oats are cultivated in great abundance, and usually produce from three to eight quarters per acre; tick beans, horse beans, gray pease, and vetches are likewise cultivated to a considerable extent; turnips are grown in almost every part of the county. Warwickshire contains about 235,000 acres in pasture, and about 60,000 acres in artificial grass. The cattle are of the long-horned breed, and the sheep are scarcely inferior to any in England. Few leases are granted, but rent is moderate. The farms are generally small, the average size being 150 acres.

MANUFACTURES are numerous in this county. Birmingham is famed for hardware, particularly for its manufacture of muskets; Warwick has a mill for spinning cotton yarn, and manufactories of worsted, calicoes, and other cotton goods. The manufacture of ribbon employs upwards of 16,000 persons in Coventry, and its neighbourhood; and this city is noted for its watches. Alcester has several manufactories for needles, and Kenilworth for horn-combs. A considerable quantity of flax and linen yarn is spun in different parts of the county.

RIVERS.—This county has no river of importance, except the Avon; the others, which are of inconsiderable size, are the Tame, the Rea, the Leam, the Stour, the Arrow, the Anker, the Alne, the Swift, the Blythe, the Cole, and the Dore.

The AVON, called also the Warwickshire, or Upper Avon, rises at Naseby in Northamptonshire, and enters this county at Bensford Bridge, near the village of Brownsover; it is joined by the Swift, which rises in Leicestershire, and winding in a south-west direction, reaches Warwick, and laves the walls of Warwick Castle. It then passes by Fulbrooke, in the park of which it is said Shakspeare, in his youth, associated with others in deer-stealing, and flows on to Stratford, beyond which town it passes Bidford and Cleve, and leaves the county after receiving in its course the waters of the Alne, Dove, Stour and Leam.

The most celebrated MEDICINAL SPRINGS, are those at Newnham Regis and Leamington.

CANALS.—The BIRMINGHAM OLD CANAL commences at Aldersley, near Wolverhampton and terminates near Birmingham, thus connecting the Staffordshire and Worcestershire canal with that of Birmingham and Fazely; in its course it forms a communication with the Worcester and Birmingham, with the Dudley, and with the Wyrley and Essington Canal.

The WARWICK AND BIRMINGHAM CANAL connects the Warwick and Napton Canal, with the Digbeth Cut.

The BIRMINGHAM and FAZELY CANAL commences in a cut from the Coventry Canal, at Whittington Brook, and terminates at Birmingham in the Old Birmingham canal.

The WORCESTER and BIRMINGHAM CANAL forms a communication between Birmingham and the river Severn, which it enters at Diglis, near Worcester.

The COVENTRY CANAL begins in the Birmingham and Fazely Canal, at Fazely, and proceeds to Longford, where it joins the Oxford Canal. A cut from this canal leads to the Griff collieries, and another to the collieries at Sea-wood Pool, and Bedworth. There is also a cut connecting the Birmingham and Fazely, with the Mersey and Trent canal.

The STRATFORD CANAL begins in the Worcester and Birmingham canal, and is intended to join the Avon at Stratford.

The WARWICK and NAPTON CANAL, connects the

Warwick and Birmingham with the Oxford canal, which it enters at Napton-on-the-Hill.

The ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH CANAL, commences in the Coventry canal, at Marston bridge, and proceeds through the counties of Warwick, Leicester and Derby.

Remarkable Places.

ALCESTER, is situated at the western extremity of the county, near the confluence of the rivers Alne and Arrow. The church and the market-house are respectable buildings. The free-school was founded in the reign of Elizabeth. The manufacture of needles at this place employs between 500 and 600 persons.

Market on Tuesday. Number of houses, 416. Inhabitants, 1,862.

ANSLEY HALL, near Atherstone, is a respectable but irregularly built mansion. In the park, which is very extensive, is a Chinese temple, built from the designs of Sir W. Chambers, and in another part of the grounds is a hermitage, where the poet Warton left some beautiful lines, when he visited Ansley-hall in 1758.

ATHERSTONE, 13 miles from Coventry, is a town on the Roman Watling-street, consisting principally of one street, which contains some handsome houses. The market-house is a spacious building. The church at this place, formerly belonging to the friary, is now converted into a chapel of ease to Manchester. The free-grammar school was founded in 1573. Atherstone is celebrated in the annals of history, as the town which the Earl of Richmond and his troops entered two days previous to the celebrated battle of Bosworth Field, which is only about nine miles distant. The manufacture of hats is carried on here to a considerable extent.

BILTON HOUSE, is a large mansion, about one mile and a half from Rugby. It is celebrated as having for a long time been the residence of Addison, and it still contains the furniture of which he made use, also the numerous pictures with which he ornamented the rooms. The extensive gardens are laid out in the old style, and in the north side of the grounds is a long avenue called Addison's walk, which formed his favourite retreat.

BIRMINGHAM, 116½ miles from London, is a large, populous, and manufacturing town, situated on a hill. The houses are not remarkable for the regularity of their appearance, but the manufactories are substantial and commodious. The upper part of the town is occupied by many new and regular streets, but the lower part containing the workshops and houses of the manufacturers, is generally very ancient. There are three churches, five chapels, a synagogue, and about 20 meeting-houses. St. Martin's church, near the corn market, is not remarkable for its beauty; St. Philip's church is a chaste and elegant structure, erected in 1719; the steeple is surmounted by a cupola, and the interior tastefully decorated. The free, or Christ church, is a neat, but substantial building. The chapels are, St. John's, St. Mary's, St. James, St. Paul's and St. Bartholomew's. The charitable institutions of Birmingham are, the general hospital, one of the handsomest buildings in the town; the dispensary, erected in 1808; the alms-houses; the society for educating the deaf and dumb; the free-school, founded by Edward VI.; the charity, or blue-coat school; the schools on the plans of Dr. Bell, and Lancaster; the dissenting charity-school for girls; and numerous Sunday schools. The market-place is adorned by a fine statue of Lord Nelson, executed by Westmacott, and erected in 1809. The theatre is a handsome building, to which is attached a tavern, hotel, and assembly-room, where concerts are often held. The public library, consisting of about 20,000 volumes, is contained in a handsome building. There is also another library, denominated the new library, and a philosophical society. The prison, built in 1806 is judiciously arranged, and contains rooms for the meetings of the county magistrates, &c. The workhouse is a capacious edifice, erected in 1733. Birmingham is particularly celebrated for its manufacture of hardware, consisting of buttons, buckles, toys, plated articles, knives, scissors, and, in short, every article of iron, steel, or brass. During the war, between six and seven thousand muskets were sent weekly to Government from the manufactories of this town. Messrs. Bolton and Watt's establishment is mentioned in STAFFORDSHIRE, Article SOHO. Birmingham is governed by two constables, chosen annually, and by a high bailiff, low bailiff, head-borough, and inferior officers.

Market on Thursday. Fairs on Thursday in Whitsun-week, and 29th September. Number of houses, 17,071. Inhabitants, 85,753.

BLYTHE HALL, one mile from Coleshill, is a large and handsome mansion, on the river Blythe. It is remarkable as having been the residence of Sir William Dugdale, the celebrated historian, whose portrait, with several others, still decorates its walls.

CHARLECOTE, four miles from Stratford, is situated on the eastern bank of the Avon. It is a noble brick building, and is distinguished as having been the residence of Sir Thomas Lucy, the persecutor of Shakspeare. Tradition asserts this to have been the place where Shakspeare committed an indiscretion, for which he was obliged to leave his native place; but Mr. Ireland has supposed it to have taken place in Fulbroke Park, which likewise belonged to Sir Thomas Lucy.

COLESHILL, nine miles from Birmingham, is a small market-town, on an ascent, at the foot of which flows the river Cole. The church stands on high ground, and is a fine specimen of Gothic architecture; the interior is extensive, and abounds with monuments.

Market on Wednesday. Fairs, Shrove-Monday, 6th May, and Wednesday after old Michaelmas-day. Number of houses, 345. Inhabitants, 1,639.

COMBE ABBEY, near Coventry, belonging to the Craven family, stands on a spot formerly occupied by a monastery of Cistercian monks. The greater part of this building was erected in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. It contains many state apartments ornamented with portraits of the Stuart family, and other paintings. The rooms generally shewn to visiters, are the great gallery, hung with portraits; the breakfast room, which was fitted up for Queen Elizabeth; the north parlour; the Vandyck room, containing a portrait of that artist, by himself; the gilt parlour; the beauty parlour; and the cedar room.

COVENTRY, 91 miles from London, and 10 miles from Warwick, is seated on rising ground, watered by the Sherbourn and Radford brooks. The approaches to the town are very mean, and the streets are narrow and ill-paved. Many of the houses appear to have been erected in the 15th century, and afford a pleasing object to the antiquary. The city, exclusive of the suburbs, is

about three quarters of a mile in length; and the streets are laid out without any regular plan. Coventry has three churches, a Roman Catholic chapel, and several meeting-houses. St. Michael's church is a fine specimen of Gothic architecture, and is particularly distinguished by the delicate symmetry and chaste ornament of its steeple, which was erected between 1373 and 1395, and has been pronounced a master-piece in the art of building; the church itself is supposed to have been built in the reign of Henry VI.; some of the windows are of painted glass, and the roof is of carved oak. Trinity church, in the immediate vicinity of St. Michael's, is a building with a lofty spire, erected in 1667; its entire height is 237 feet. St. John's church is a handsome stone building, with a low massive tower. St. Mary's hall, a short distance from St. Michael's, and the principal civic building in Coventry, was erected in the time of Henry VI. The entrance to the building is formed by a porch, on the key-stone and arches of which are several curious sculptures; the great hall is a noble room, 21 yards in length, and 10 in breadth; the windows are splendidly decorated with painted glass, representing the arms of various kings, and the portraits of several noblemen. Beneath the north window is a very curious piece of tapestry, 30 feet long and 10 high, divided into three compartments; amongst the figures introduced in the first, are Henry VI. Cardinal Beaufort, and Duke Humphrey; in the second are seen the twelve Apostles, and the Virgin Mary, and in the third is a figure of Queen Margaret. The sides of the hall are adorned with devices and portraits, and in the gallery, at one end, are several suits of armour. The county hall is a handsome building, with a stone front, erected in 1785. The mayor's parlour, built in 1775, is a building, in which the mayor, or one of the aldermen, attends for the transaction of public business. The other public buildings deserving notice are, the gaol, erected in 1772; the barracks in High Street, and the Draper's hall. The house of industry for the parishes of the Holy Trinity, and St. Michael, was formerly part of the ancient monastery; the cloister is now used as an eating room. This house is under excellent regulations, and one of its rooms is fitted up as a chapel. The charitable institutions of this city are,

Bablake hospital, Grey Friars' hospital, and the free-school. Coventry, as has been already mentioned, is famous for its manufacture of ribbons and watches, and is governed by a mayor, 10 aldermen, and 20 common-councilmen.

Market on Friday. Fairs, on the 2d May, Friday in Trinity week, and 1st of November. Number of houses, 3,510. Inhabitants, 17,923.

GUY'S CLIFF is a picturesque residence, about 1½ mile from Warwick. It was formerly the site of an hermitage, situated on a lofty cliff, whence the place derives its name; here it is said Guy, Earl of Warwick, lived with the hermit in retirement. The chapel is a plain but solid building; its founder, Richard Beauchamp, caused a statue of Earl Guy to be cut out of the solid rock, which is still visible, although in a mutilated state. The stables, cellars, &c. of Guy's Cliff House are cut out of the solid rock. About half a mile from Guy's Cliff is *Blacklow Hill*, where Gaveston, Earl of Cornwall, was beheaded in 1311, as may be seen by the inscription on a rocky part of the hill.

HATTON, about six miles from Warwick, is remarkable as the residence of Dr. Parr, one of the most distinguished literary characters of the present age. He lives at the parsonage house, and performs clerical duty at the parish church, which has received considerable embellishments under his direction.

HENLEY in Arden is a small market town, between Stratford and Birmingham. In the market-place are the vestiges of an ancient cross, with three kneeling places, and in three ornamented niches are representations of the Crucifixion, the Holy Trinity, and St. Peter. The chapel is a neat structure, erected in the reign of Edward III.

Market on Tuesday. Fairs, 25th March, and Whit-Tuesday. Number of houses, 254. Inhabitants, 1,055.

KENILWORTH CASTLE. The romantic ruins of this celebrated pile are situated about five miles from Coventry. The castle was originally built in the reign of Henry I., by Geoffrey de Clinton, who was then Lord Chamberlain, and afterwards became Lord Chief Justice of England. After passing through the hands of various proprietors, it reverted to the crown, and was given by

Queen Elizabeth to the Earl of Leicester, who expended immense sums on its enlargement. Here, in 1575, her Majesty was entertained by the Earl in the most sumptuous way for 17 days, during which every kind of amusement contributed to augment the magnificence of the scene. During the civil wars, Kenilworth Castle fell into the hands of Oliver Cromwell, by whom its fortifications were destroyed, and the whole dilapidated. Of the original fortress, only three sides of a square tower now exist. In the division built by the Earl of Leicester, may still be seen the remains of the great hall, and the great gate house, which is in tolerable preservation. In one of the apartments is an alabaster chimney-piece, on which are the armorial bearings, &c. of the Leicester family.

KINETON or KINGTON, 12½ miles from Banbury, is a small market town, on the north-west side of the Edge Hills, which are so named from their abrupt elevation; and are celebrated for the civil contest which took place here between Charles I. and the parliament, on the 23d October, 1642. The dead were buried in an adjacent pit, and the spot is still designated by a few fir trees.

Market on Wednesday. Fairs, Wednesday before Easter, Whit Monday, 22 July, and September 13. Number of houses, 173. Inhabitants, 801.

KNOWLE or KNOLL, three miles from Solihall, is a small village on an eminence. The chapel is a handsome building, with stalls ornamented with curious sculptures of different animals. The pews are likewise adorned with carving, and the windows with painted glass.

LEAMINGTON SPA, two miles from Warwick, is pleasantly situated on the river Leam, and is celebrated for its medicinal springs, which have contributed to render it a fashionable place of resort. The theatre is a neat and commodious building, in Bath Street, but the principal edifice in Leamington, is the new pump room, with the baths attached to it; an elegant building, with a colonnade in front. The baths are supplied with water from the Mineral Wells. Dr. Kerr, of Northampton, has contributed much to the popularity of this town. There are several other places where the waters are taken, and where every accommodation is provided for visiters. The

church is a plain edifice, with a neat square tower. The Leamington Spa Charity, projected by Mr. Satchwell, a tradesman of this place, is a useful institution for the gratuitous relief of persons to whom the waters would be beneficial. This place has a handsome assembly room, to which are attached apartments for billiards, cards, &c. Adjoining the new pump-room is a stone bridge, over the Leam, and at the south end of the village are the Ranelagh Gardens. The Priory Gardens have likewise been fitted up for public amusement. In 1812, a picture gallery, reading room, and museum, were opened, to which persons may have admission for a trifling subscription; there are also several libraries. Lodging-houses and hotels are numerous. The season continues from April to November. Number of houses, 188. Inhabitants, 543.

MAXSTOKE CASTLE, one mile from Blythe Hall, is a noble edifice, erected by William de Clinton, Earl of Huntingdon, in the reign of Edward III. The building is in the form of a parallelogram, surrounded by a ditch. Part of the ancient building was destroyed by fire, but the greater portion still exists, in which may be seen the hall, dining-room, with a curious carved chimney-piece, and the chapel. In the vicinity are the ruins of an Augustine priory.

NEWNHAM PADOX, 12 miles from Coventry, the seat of the Earl of Denbigh, is a substantial and commodious mansion. The rooms contain many fine paintings, among which are some by Vandyck.

NEWNHAM REGIS is a village on the north side of the Avon, about four miles from Rugby. It was formerly celebrated for its bath, which is situated on the banks of the river. The mineral spring is about a mile distant, and the water, in its passage to the bath, flows through a lime pit.

NUNEATON, eight miles from Coventry, is principally remarkable for the remains of its monastery, which was founded in the reign of King Stephen. The ruins consist of an arch, with fragments of walls. The church is a handsome Gothic building. This town has a free school, and several manufactories for weaving ribbon.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, 18 February, 14 May, and 31 October. Number of houses, 1,101. Inhabitants, 4,947.

PACKINGTON (GREAT) five miles from Coleshill. At this place is a commodious mansion, the seat of the Earl of Aylesford, and in the vicinity is a small building, called Forest Hall, erected for a society of archers, denominated the Woodmen of Arden.

POLESWORTH, five miles from Atherstone, is remarkable as the site of the first religious house established in this county. Considerable portions of the nunnery still exist, though in a state of decay.

RAGLEY HALL, two miles from Alcester, is the splendid residence of the Marquis of Hertford. The house was built by Lord Conway, but has undergone considerable alterations and improvements, under the direction of Mr. Wyatt. It is situated on rising ground, and has four principal fronts, which are all remarkable for the beauty of their architecture. The adjacent park is decorated with a fine piece of water, and abounds with oak-trees of majestic growth.

RED HORSE VALE, near Kineton, is formed by some lowlands in the lordship of Tysoe. On a hill opposite the church of Tysoe is cut out the figure of a horse, denominated, from the colour of the soil, the Red Horse, but far inferior in size to the White Horse of Berkshire. It is supposed to have been executed to commemorate the valour of the Earl of Warwick, who, previously to the battle of Towton, destroyed his horse, that he might expose himself on foot to the same danger as his fellow soldiers.

RUGBY, 13 miles from Coventry, is a pleasant market town, on the east side of the county. The streets are clean, but ill paved. It is principally noted for its free grammar-school, founded in the reign of Queen Elizabeth by Lawrence Sheriff, a grocer of London, who bequeathed a house at Rugby for the accommodation of the master, who was to be a master of arts. Part of the endowment consisted of an estate in Lamb's Conduit Fields, and part of the rectory of Brownsover. These have increased so much in value, that new buildings have been erected for the masters and scholars. At the fairs

held in this place great quantities of cattle are sold. Rugby has two meeting-houses and an alms-house.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, second Tuesday after Twelfth Day, February 17, March 31, May 15, July 7, August 21, Monday before Michaelmas, Monday before October 27, November 2, and Tuesday before December 21. Number of houses, 335; inhabitants, 1,805.

STRATFORD UPON AVON, 94 miles from London, is delightfully situated on the south-west border of the county, on a gentle ascent from the banks of the river Avon. The principal attraction of this place is the house in which Shakspeare was born, situated in Henley Street, a few doors from the White Lion inn. At the period when he lived it was doubtless a respectable residence: it has since been divided into two parts, occupied by an inn, (to which a new front was put in 1810,) and a butcher's shop; over the latter is shewn the room in which the immortal bard first drew breath, and the chairs in which he is said to have sat. The walls are covered with the names of persons who have visited this hallowed spot, and many of whom have testified their respect for his memory in poetic lines. Amongst these may be seen the names of the most distinguished persons, not only of our own but of foreign countries. In a garden belonging to the White Lion inn is a mulberry-tree, planted from a shoot of the celebrated one of Shakspeare. The church, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, stands on the margin of the Avon, at the south-eastern extremity of this town, and the approach to it is formed by an avenue of lime-trees. The monuments are numerous; but the one deserving most attention is that of Shakspeare, on the north wall of the chancel, consisting of a bust of the poet between two Corinthian columns of black marble: beneath this monument, and under a stone, lie the remains of Shakspeare and his wife. The town-hall in High-street, erected in 1768, is a building of the Tuscan order; at the north end is an excellent statue of Shakspeare, presented by Mr. Garrick; and in the interior is a large room, ornamented with three portraits, Shakspeare, painted by Wilson; Garrick, by Gainsborough; and the Duke of Dorset, by a pupil of Reynolds. At the top of the High-street are the remains of

an ancient cross; and at a short distance is the chapel of the Holy Cross, formerly decorated with beautiful frescoes and other paintings. The lower part of the guildhall is used by the corporation, and the upper part is appropriated to the free grammar-school. Adjoining the guildhall are alms-houses. In 1769, a festival in honour of Shakspeare, termed the jubilee, was celebrated at Stratford, under the direction of Mr. Garrick. The town consists of 12 streets, which are tolerably paved and very clean. The stone bridge over the Avon was erected in the time of Henry VII.

Market on Thursday. Fairs, Thursday after Lady Day, May 14, September 25, and the Thursday se'nnight after. Number of houses, 563; inhabitants, 2,842.

SUTTON COLDFIELD, seven miles from Warwick, is a neat town, with a handsome church; the soil of the church-yard consumes with astonishing rapidity the bodies which are deposited there. Several manufactures are carried on with considerable spirit.

Market on Monday. Fairs, Trinity Monday, and November 8. Number of houses, 619; inhabitants, 2,959.

TAMWORTH is situated at the junction of the Tame and the Anker, partly in this county, and partly in that of Staffordshire, to which the reader is referred. The castle situated in this county stands on an artificial mount, and the exterior is still in good preservation, though the interior has suffered from neglect.

WARWICK, 91 miles from London, is situated on the Avon, in the centre of the county. The streets are well paved, and the houses large and regularly built. Here are two churches, a chapel, and several meeting-houses. St. Mary's, the principal church, is a large and solid building, with a square tower at the western extremity: the choir is a part of the old building, destroyed by fire in 1694; the stone roof is richly worked, and different parts of the church are ornamented with monuments. St. Nicholas Church is a handsome building, with a low spire at the west end. Adjoining St. Mary's Church is the Chapel of our Lady, generally called the Beauchamp Chapel, a beautiful specimen of the Gothic style, completed in the reign of Edward IV.; the altar is adorned with an exquisite basso relievo representing the Annun-

ciation, and the east window is decorated with painted glass. In the centre is the monument of the founder, one of the most splendid in the kingdom; besides which there are several other sepulchral memorials. The other public buildings are the market-house, the court-house, or town-hall, the county-hall, the bridewell, the county gaol, and the theatre. Over the west gate of the principal street is a chapel, to which is attached an hospital for the support of 22 brethren and a master. On the east gate is the ancient church of St. Peter, now used as a school-room for poor children. The manufactures of Warwick consist of combing and spinning wool, preparing worsted, weaving calicos and other cotton goods. On the Avon, about a mile and a half from the town, is a mill for spinning cotton yarns. Near the west end of the town is a plain where races are held annually. Warwick sends two members to parliament; and is governed by a corporation, consisting of a mayor, recorder, 12 aldermen, 24 common-councilmen, &c.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, first Saturday in Lent, first Monday before April 5, May 12, July 5, second Monday in August, September 4, October 12, November 8, and the Monday before St. Thomas's Day. Number of houses, 1,283; inhabitants, 6,497.

WARWICK CASTLE, the principal residence of the Earls of Warwick, is situated on a rock, the base of which is washed by the waters of the Avon, at the south-east end of the town of Warwick. The time when this stupendous structure was first erected is unknown, but it is supposed to have been prior to the conquest. On a lofty mount, near the river, formerly stood the tower in which, it is said, Ethelfleda's dungeon was situated. The castle has an ancient but magnificent appearance, and the interior is remarkable for its splendour and elegance; the rooms are ornamented with many fine paintings, and the hall with various pieces of armour besides those kept in the armour gallery. The park is very extensive, and the grounds are laid out with great taste; in the green-house is a curious antique vase of white marble, presented to the Earl of Warwick by Sir William Hamilton.



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LAKE OF WYNDERMERE.

WESTMORELAND.

Length 42 Miles. Breadth 32. Circumference 140. Square miles 722. Square acres 462,080. Hundreds 4. Market Towns 8. Parishes 32. Houses 9,064. Persons 47,500.—Diocese of Carlisle.—Northern Circuit.—Members to Parliament 4.—Militiamen 240.

BOUNDARIES.—This county is bounded on the north by Durham and Cumberland, on the west by Cumberland and Lancashire, and by Durham and Yorkshire on the east. It is divided into two Baronies, that of Kendal and Westmoreland, and subdivided into wards; the former contains those of Kendal and Kirby Lonsdale; the latter is frequently termed the Barony of Appleby or Bottom of Westmoreland; it comprises the east and west ward. From the peculiarity of its situation near the western ocean the climate is moist.

SOIL.—The fields and moors consist of a hazel mould, and produce coarse grass, heath, and fern, or what are generally termed ling and brackens. Numerouse nclosures have been made, and draining has been much encouraged. At Acorn-bank is a vein of Gypsum, well adapted for floors; near Law-wood is a stratum of dark grey limestone, which spreads as far as Longsleddale, where it is converted into lime, and frequently used for tombs and chimney-pieces. At Thief-hole there is a stratum of dark purple schistose-slate of excellent quality. Red porphyry is found near Kendal, and stratum of flesh coloured granite, in which quartz felt spars, and veins of gold mica, have a beautiful appearance. Near Wastdale-cragg is also found greenish sea-coloured granite of a hard and fine texture; coarse granite is found in many parts of the county; also basalt in great abundance. There are numerous hills of alluvial stones, which have the appearance of being produced by the operation of water previous to the formation of the strata, in which are found organized bodies. Fragments of rock are found on most of the lower hills; towards Kendal, and particularly about Wastdale Beck, several of

the brooks murmur amongst immense blocks of granite; various kinds of stone are found throughout the county; sulphureous copper is also to be seen at Wastall-head, but it is not worked. Lead has been produced at Hartley and Dunfell. Coal is produced in Stanemore Forest but not in any abundance, or of superior quality; the strata being too compact, it is of a slaty kind. In the mountainous parts slate is found in great abundance.

AGRICULTURE.—The farms in general are considered small, and the greater portion belongs to the yeomanry, who are distinguished from those who rent the land, by the name of statesmen. The lands of the statesmen and farmers, together with their houses and offices, are badly arranged for the convenience of farming; barns are large and numerous, but stacks are rarely seen; the former are covered with slate, and plastered inside the roof, the stables and cow-houses generally occupy the ground-floor; and sufficient room is left above for the whole produce of the farm. The rents of the farmers arise from the sale of cattle, sheep, wool, butter, eggs, and hams; the latter are cured with salt from Liverpool, hung up in large chimneys, and dried with the smoke of peat or wood. The wool is principally used at Kendal and Bradford. The cattle of this county resemble the Lancashire breed, and frequently grow to an immense size; the Lowther breed are famous. The sheep on the mountains are either natives or crossed with the Scotch; and no improvement has been made in the breed, which is horned, with dark or grey faces; they are thick in their pelt, and produce coarse wool. The Silver-dale breed, about Millthorpe, is much superior to the other sort, both in fleece and carcase. Labour is dear, which is probably owing to the great number of small farmers; woods and coppices are numerous. The underwoods are cut down every 16th year, for hoops and charcoal.

RIVERS.—This county is not remarkable for navigable rivers, the tide reaches Winster, Kent and Betha, in Moricombe bay, but the mountainous character of the country is such as to form channels, which are too rapid and strong to admit the free use of boats; the nu-

merous brooks which are found in the dales, answer the purposes of commerce and agriculture.

The EDEN, or Water of the Hills, rises near the seat formerly belonging to Hugh Morville; the river traverses the forest of Mallestang, passes through Wharton Park, and laving the towns of Kirkby-Stephen, and Appleby, enters Cumberland by the parish of Broughton; trout and other river fish, except salmon, is found in abundance.

The LOWTHER, or Dark Water, rises in the moors above Westleddale, and flows by Rasgill-hall, where it receives Swindale-beck. Below Bampton grange it unites with the Thornthwaite, which issues out of Hause-water, and falls in great force at Shanthwaite Mill.

The EAMONT rises at the foot of Ulls-water, and forms a junction with the Eden, where it enters Cumberland.

The LUNE, or Loan, rises in the parish of Ravenstonedale, and running southward, enters Lancashire, near Kirby-Lonsdale; small salmon is found here in great abundance.

The KENT rises near High-street, passes through Kentmere Tarn, receives in its course the Sprit and the Mint, and affords its aid to the manufactories in Kendal, when it flows through the park of Levens, and uniting with the Underbarrow, and Betham Becks, flows under Arnside Fells into the Bay of Moricambis.

The WINSTER, rises in Clay-barrow heath, forms the boundary between Westmoreland and Lancashire, passes a village of its own name, and enters the Bay opposite Arnside Fell.

LAKES.—The love of ease which is inseparable from man, and the means of indulgence having offered themselves to a considerable portion of the community, various parts of this highly favoured county have been selected for the purpose of amusement, particularly during the summer months, and the extraordinary as well as romantic scenery of Westmoreland, has attracted considerable notice. The beauty and variety for which the lakes have been long celebrated, will entitle each to a brief notice.

AIS-WATER, lies in a narrow glen, nearly a mile south-west from Low Hartsop; the water is bright, and the

shore sandy, but without the embellishment of trees, houses, or enclosures.

BROAD-WATER, in the domain of Hartsop, is nearly a mile above Ulls-water; the shores are flat, boggy and abound with reeds and water-plants; the mountains which surround it are rugged and romantic; the best view is from Harsop-high-field.

ELTERS-WATER, at the foot of Great Langdale, is larger than Grass-mere, and has irregular shores, well decorated with wood: it exhibits all the beauty and variety of scenery, which distinguish some of the other Lakes.

GRASS-MERE, independently of its small lake, exhibits a richness and variety of scenery, equal to any that can be found in the county; the extent of the lake is about four miles; near the centre of it is an island, with a barn; the village of Grass-mere lies contiguous, also several gentlemen's seats, and some old and humble habitations peculiar to the county.

GRISEDALE-TARN, derives its name from Grisedale. RED-TARN lies under the eastern part of Helvellyn; it is about a mile long, the water is of a reddish brown, and the island of rock at its head, deprives it of the rays of the sun in winter. This gloomy lake abounds with fish, particularly trout, which are of an inferior kind; near Red-tarn is Kepelcove-tarn, a beautiful lake, abounding with fine trout, the waters of these two mountains unite at the head of Glenriddon.

HAUSE-WATER, situated in a vale called Mardale, is three miles long, and from a quarter to half a mile broad: char, trout, perch, eels, &c., are found in this lake. The hills which surround it are steep and craggy, and the surrounding enclosures produce a pleasing effect.

RYDALE-WATER, is supplied by the Rothay, and is about a mile in extent; the islands in this lake have a truly picturesque effect, reeds grow in various parts of the lake, and only one side is shaded by trees.

SKEGGLES-WATER, on the mountains, between Longsleddle and Kentmere, is of small extent, but richly stored with trout, pike, perch and eels.

SMALL-WATER, is situated in the solitude of Rig-

gindale, which is the highest branch of the vale of Mardale. It is the favourite resort of anglers.

ULLS-WATER, see CUMBERLAND.

WINANDER-MERE, or WYNDERMERE, attracts the attention of all tourists: its water is so remarkably pellucid that the eye can see distinctly to the depth of twelve yards, and behold the finny tribe playing in shoals; the lake is ten miles long, in some parts nearly three broad, and contains 4,534 acres of water, which is but little affected by changes of season. It is chiefly supplied by the Rothay and Brathay, together with the Troutbeck.

Remarkable Places.

AMBLESIDE, 13 miles from Kendal, is a small town, delightfully situated, and a place of great resort during the summer season, for persons who wish to visit the lakes. The excellence of the accommodation entitles it to notice and general encouragement. The chapel is within the precincts of Grassmere, in which a part of this town is comprised.

Market on Wednesday. Fairs, Whit-Monday, and October 29th. Number of houses, 134. Inhabitants, 624.

APPLEBY, 10 miles from Penrith, is a borough, and sends two members to parliament. The assizes were held here till the erection of the new court houses in Bondgate, in 1771. The cloisters, or market-house, were pulled down in 1811, and an elegant Gothic edifice erected, from the design of Mr. Smirke. At each end of the town is a handsome cross. Appleby is governed by a mayor, recorder, 12 burgesses, coroner, sword-bearer, &c. The shambles, in the middle of the street, are found extremely inconvenient. The church contains several monuments of distinguished personages. Here is a free grammar-school, and an hospital. The castle of Appleby has undergone several alterations, at different periods, but the principal part was built in 1686, by Thomas Earl of Thanet, out of the ruins of the old castle; there are numerous portraits of the Thanet and Bedford family, also a portrait of Queen Elizabeth, and several of the house of Stuart. The magnificent suit of armour worn by George Clifford, in the tilt yard, is here preserved, also his horse armour;

they are curiously ornamented, and have a splendid appearance. In the library are some valuable manuscripts, particularly memoirs of the Countess of Pembroke, written by herself.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, St. Lawrence day, Whitsun eve, Whit Monday, 2d Thursday in April, and the following day. Cattle fairs once a fortnight, from Whitsun eve to Michaelmas. Number of houses, 393. Inhabitants, 2,160.

ARTHUR'S ROUND TABLE, is a curious circle, consisting of a high dyke of earth, and a deep foss within, surrounding an area 29 yards in diameter; some persons imagine it was intended for tilting matches, others, that it was a Roman amphitheatre; it is near the village of Eamont, (frequently called Yeamon bridge) and is an object of considerable curiosity.

BAMPTON, 12 miles from Appleby. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a neat building; the roof is supported by lofty pillars, and the tower contains five excellent bells. Here is a free grammar-school, an endowed preparatory school, and four libraries, the donations of distinguished persons. Number of houses, 121. Inhabitants, 595.

CALGARTH, four miles from Kendal, was the residence of the late Dr. Watson, bishop of Llandaff, whose valuable writings have contributed in an eminent degree to refute the disciples of infidelity. The late venerable proprietor greatly improved the estate, by erecting an elegant mansion, and by rearing the young plantations with considerable skill.

KENDAL, 256 miles from London, and 22 from Lancaster, consists chiefly of one handsome street, well paved, with several smaller ones branching from it at right angles. This town has a rural appearance. The church stands in Kirkland; it has five aisles, and the roof is supported by four rows of pillars; the interior is elegantly furnished; on each side the altar table are two aisles, or oratories; within the altar rails are epitaphs of several vicars of Kendal. St. George's chapel was built in 1754. The charitable institutions are, an hospital, charity school, blue coat school, and school of industry; here is also a dispensary, free grammar-school, and workhouse. The butcher's market

is a neat modern building. Kendal was one of the first provincial towns that printed a newspaper. A respectable book-club has been established here. In the museum are preserved all the brass tokens which were coined here in the 17th century. The castle is on a hill on the east side of the Kent, commanding an extensive view, enlivened by wood and water; the greater portion of the castle is now in ruins.

Markets on Saturday. Fairs, March 22d, April 29th, November 8th and 9th. Number of houses, 1,510. Inhabitants, 7,505.

KIRKBY LONSDALE, 12 miles from Kendal, seated on the west side of the Lune, is built of fine freestone, and the houses covered with slate. The streets are well paved and lighted, and the gardens are pleasingly interspersed. The church was built at different periods, and the church-yard affords a pleasing view of the adjacent country, with the Lune running below, under a steep bank, of considerable height. The bridge, consisting of three arches, is a beautiful structure. The mills are built on the side of a steep bank, and worked by the water of a brook which flows through the town. The manufacture of knit stockings has declined. Hutton-roof, Killington, Fairbank, Barbon, and Mansergh are chapels of ease to the church of this place.

Market on Thursday. Fairs, Holy Thursday, and 21st December. Number of houses, 288. Inhabitants, 1,368.

LOWTHER CASTLE, two miles from Penrith, is a modern structure, built on the site of the old castle, which was destroyed by fire in 1720. The centre of the north front is embellished with a handsome porch, and leads to the entrance hall; the staircase, which is of stone, is lighted by beautiful painted glass. The rooms are superbly furnished, the doors are of mahogany, and the whole combines every requisite for the gratification of the most refined taste. The parks and pleasure grounds are of considerable extent, disposed with judgment, and present some of the most extensive and delightful scenery that can be imagined.

MILTHORPE, five miles from Kendal, is the only town in this county that has the advantage of the tide, which flows from the Kent up the Betha, over which is a

neat bridge. The principal shipping business is chiefly in hoops, and the Kendal manufactures, which are sent to Liverpool, Port Glasgow, *&c.* Two paper mills are established here.

Market on Friday. Fairs, May 12th and October 17th. Number of houses, 255. Inhabitants, 1,138.

ORTON HALL, eight miles from Appleby, the seat of the late John Burn, Esq., a magistrate of eminent talents, and of unwearied application in his professional avocations. This gentleman was the son of the celebrated author of "Justice of Peace," and "Ecclesiastical Law," which he revised after the death of his father, and witnessed their progress through several editions. The church is Gothic, with an embattled tower, and is dedicated to All Saints.

WINANDERMERE, in the parish of Bulness, eight miles from Kendal. The Melrose chronicles assure us that Ethred slew Elf and Edwin, sons of Elfwold, here, in 791. It gives name to a parish, which was formerly a chapelry, under Kendal. The church, dedicated to St. Martin, is of considerable size, and although meanly furnished, is very clean; numerous texts of Scripture are written on the walls, agreeably to the custom in this county. The tombs are numerous, and several of them record the names of eminent persons. The chancel window is an object of attraction, from the great portion of painted figures with which it is adorned. Bulness was called by Gilpin, "the capital port town of the lakes." Its harbours are crowded with vessels, both for amusement and commerce; here boats may be obtained for navigating the lakes.

WILTSHIRE.

Length 48 miles. Breadth 20.—Square miles 744. Square acres 495,360.—Hundreds 8.—Market-towns 9.—Parishes 207. Houses 32,462. Persons 168,400.—Diocese of York.—Midland Circuit.—Members to Parliament 8.—Militia-men 480.

BOUNDARIES.—Wiltshire is situated towards the south western division of England. In the opinion of Saxon historians, Wilton was the metropolis of the Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Wessex. This county is bounded on the north and north-west by Dorsetshire, on the south and east by Hampshire, and by Berkshire on the north-east. It may be considered as naturally divided into two portions, usually denominated North and South Wiltshire, which differ not only in appearance, but in other distinguishing qualities. South Wiltshire, which claims priority of notice, forms the western division of a vast tract of chalk-hills, including a considerable portion of Hampshire, and having for its boundaries the rich lands of Berkshire, and the extreme verge of the Marlborough hills on the north, the irregular ground of Somersetshire on the west, the New Forest of Hampshire on the south, and the heaths of Surry and Sussex, together with the West Downs, of the latter on the east. This county displays a continual series of gentle eminences; the surface of the higher grounds spreads out like the ocean, after a storm, for it is continually heaving in large swells. The whole of this district may be divided into the Marlborough and Salisbury downs. About Stonehenge, the greatest level prevails, and the face of this part of the county presents a tame aspect. Many of the scenes are grand, and cannot fail to interest the admirer of the picturesque. North Wiltshire presents different scenery, and instead of a constant series of chalk hills, the general aspect is flat, but the country is so well wooded, that when viewed from the surrounding hills, it exhibits the appearance of one vast plantation. On the banks of the lower Avon and Thames, there is a considerable portion of rich pasture land, inter-

spersed with numerous smaller streams flowing into those rivers: here are also a considerable number of corn fields.

Soil.—Chalk forms the chief part of the sub-structure of the assemblage of hills, called the Downs. In some places the substance is extremely hard, but is generally of a soft marly texture; the former, when burnt, is useful for building, and the latter is frequently used in its natural state, for clayey soils, particularly in the valleys. The chalk of Sudbury Hill is the best in the county, and remarkably white. The under strata in the lower grounds are clays, flint, and sand stone; the two first are frequently interspersed with the chalk on the hills; of the last, there are several singular veins running in various directions, both in North and South Wiltshire. In the northern division, the substructure is, in other respects, entirely opposite to that in the southern; here the chief under stratum consists of a loose irregular mass of flat broken stones, mixed with the earth, and in some places sufficiently thin for covering houses; in others so thick as to be calculated for pavements; a third kind resembles freestone. Under the sand strata at Swindon, is found a very singular rock, of most excellent quality. Neither coal nor metallic ores have been found amongst the natural productions of this county. On the borders of Somersetshire are some freestone quarries, where a very considerable quantity of fire stones are obtained. The quarries at Box, near Bath, have been long celebrated. The Swindon stone is not only used for pavement, but for cisterns, tombs, and various other purposes. Near Wotton-Basset, a peculiar species of fossil abounds in the blue clay of the substrata. Among the freestone, near Grittleton, is a flinty substance, similar to the basaltic columns, but of small dimensions.

Agriculture.—The southern districts may be considered as one immense sheep farm, the greater portion of the downs, and many of the valleys, being devoted to the rearing of that useful animal. The rage for improving the size of the carcase has in some degree subsided in consequence of experience; the downs not affording pasture sufficiently abundant and nutritive to enlarge the frame, although they are well adapted to the growth of wool of the finest quality: to attain this great deside-

ratum, the Wiltshire farmers have introduced new breeds, or crossed them with the old ones: many flocks consist of the South Down sheep from Sussex, which being small and hardy, are easily fed, and capable of enduring the severity of winter. The original Wiltshire breed, are considered inferior both in carcase and wool. On the Dorsetshire borders, a considerable number of cows are kept for butter, to supply Bath, Salisbury, and other towns of the northern district. The Wiltshire Downs produce every kind of natural grass. Fallowing is in very general use, and the chief manure is the sheep fold. The Highlands produce wheat and barley, and the valleys green crops for winter food. Irrigation is more general in the low lands of this county than in any other in the kingdom; and the fertility of this soil is truly astonishing. The grand feature of the agriculture of North Wiltshire, is the pasturage or grazing system; but the farmers prefer purchasing to rearing stock. The long horned cattle prevail, but the Devonshire have also been introduced. The cheese is well known, and has been frequently sold for Gloucestershire. Pigs are reared in vast numbers, particularly the long-eared or Old Wiltshire, and the Black African, or Negro, and the bacon is an important article of traffic.

MANUFACTURES are various in this county, and of considerable extent. Salisbury is celebrated for flannels and fancy woollens, also for cutlery and steel goods; Wilton for carpets, and fancy woollens; Mere for dowlas and bed ticks; Bradford for broad cloths and kerseymeres, &c.; Albourn for cotton goods, and Swindon for gloves, &c.

RIVERS abound in Wiltshire, and most of them take their rise in the county or its environs. The source of the THAMES has been much disputed; some contend for Wiltshire, others for Gloucestershire, but the prevailing opinion is in favour of the latter, and the hilly part of Cotteswold is considered the head of this noble stream. In Wiltshire it becomes of importance, by the junction of numerous tributary streams, the chief of which are the Swill-Brook, the Key, and the Churn.

The source of the LOWER AVON has also given rise to various opinions, but it is generally admitted that this

river derives its source from different springs on the confines of this county and Gloucestershire. Emerging from the hills, the river proceeds in a curvilinear course eastwards, across the Fosse-road, till it reaches Malmsbury, where it forms a junction with other streams. Flowing hence, it proceeds by Great Somerford, Dantzey, and Chippenham, to Melksham and Bradford, when it enters Somersetshire in its course to Bath.

The UPPER AVON is formed by the confluence of several smaller rivers, which take their rise near the centre of the county. After their junction, the Avon flows southward through a fine valley which crosses the Downs of South Wiltshire, by Ambresbury, Old Sarum, and Salisbury, when it enters Hampshire, near Downton.

The WILLEY rises at the foot of the Clay-Hills, and passing through Warminster, is joined by the rivulet called the Deverill, whence it flows to Salisbury, and there discharges itself into the Avon.

The NADDER rises near Shaftsbury, and flows by Wardour Castle to Wilton.

The BOURNE rises in the vicinity of Easton, but this stream flows principally in the winter.

The KENNET having its rise near Barbury Castle, flows to West Kennet, and after taking circuitous routes, passes near Marlborough, and the villages on the borders of Berkshire. This river is famous for eels and trout. Several other rivers have their origin in Wiltshire, but they are not of sufficient consequence to require notice.

CANALS.—There are four canals in this county, the Thames and Severn, the Kent and Avon, the Wiltshire and Berkshire, also the Southampton canal.

The THAMES and SEVERN CANAL occupies so small a portion of the county, that we must refer the reader to Gloucestershire.

The KENT and AVON CANAL, intended to connect the navigation of these two rivers, and consequently that of the Thames and Avon was projected in 1794. The line of this canal from Bath crosses Wiltshire, and passes by Trowbridge to Devizes, whence it flows to Hungerford, where it enters Berkshire, and continues along the banks of the Kennet, which it crosses at Newbury, till its junction with that river near Reading.

The WILTSHIRE and BERKSHIRE CANAL proceeds from the Kennet and Avon canal, at Lemington, whence it proceeds to Melksham, towards Chippenham, and flows to Foxham, it afterwards passes by Wootton Basset and Swindon, to the vicinity of Highworth, near which it flows into Berkshire, and joins the Thames near Abingdon.

The SALISBURY and SOUTHAMPTON CANAL commences at the former place, and towards the south-east leaves Wiltshire at West Dean. These canals are carried over the rivers in this county, which they intersect, by means of aqueducts; the only tunnel is that on the Kennet and Avon, near Burbage.

Remarkable Places.

AMESBURY or AMBRESBURY, seven miles from Salisbury, a small market-town of great antiquity, consists of two streets of mean appearance. The parish church is built of stone and flint, and contains some specimens of early architecture.

Market on Friday. Fairs, 17 May, 22 June, 6 October and first Wednesday after 12 December. Houses, 178. Inhabitants, 723.

AMESBURY HOUSE, or Abbey, is on the north western side of the town of the same name. The house was built by Webb, from the designs of Inigo Jones; in this place the poet Gay spent many years of his life, under the hospitable roof of the celebrated Duke and Duchess of Queensberry.

AVEBURY or ABURY, a village, five miles from Marlborough, is remarkable for containing the ruins of an ancient British temple. It is supposed to have consisted of 650 stones, surrounded by a ditch and vallum. A considerable pile of these stones still exist, and two of them are vulgarly called the Devil's Coits. About a mile to the north, is an immense barrow or tumulus, called *Silbury Hill*, which is said to have been connected with the temple: it exceeds in size every other barrow in England, but is generally presumed to have been artificially constructed. Its base measures 1,680 feet in circumference, and its summit 315.

BOWOOD, two miles from Calne, the seat of the

Marquis of Lansdowne, is a handsome mansion, situated on an eminence. The principal front towards the south has a large portico, supported by ten Doric columns, above which is a *basso relievo* of the family arms. The rooms are elegantly fitted up and many of them adorned with fine paintings. The park and pleasure grounds are extensive, and ornamented with a lake of great beauty. In the grounds is a mausoleum erected by Earl Shelburne.

BOX, five miles from Bradford, is a small village, remarkable for its picturesque beauties, and being intersected by the road from Bath to London, never fails to arrest the attention of all travellers. The Bath stone, of which the greater part of that city was built, was dug in quarries near this place.

BRADFORD, 100 miles from London, is divided by the Avon into two parts called the town, and the new town. It is a manufacturing place of considerable extent, and the houses are chiefly composed of stone. The charitable institutions are two alms-houses, and a charity school. The church is a spacious and ancient edifice, and in the windows is some modern painted glass. The Kennet and Avon canal, which passes by Bradford, opens a communication to Bath, Bristol and London, &c.: the government is vested in two justices of the peace.

Market on Monday. Fair, Trinity Monday. Houses, 582. Inhabitants, 2,989.

CALNE, 87 miles from London, is a borough and market-town, on the small river Marlan, which turns several grist and fulling mills. The market-house and town-hall, is a convenient building; and the town has a considerable trade in broad cloths, kerseymeres, &c. The church is an ancient and extensive edifice, the roof of which is adorned with rich carving. Calne sends two members to parliament, and its corporation consists of 24 capital burgesses. It has a free-school, founded in the 17th century. In its vicinity are found numerous beautiful fossils.

CHARLTON PARK, about a mile from Malmsbury, the seat of Earl Suffolk, is a magnificent free-stone building, containing many fine portraits by Vandyck and Lely.

CHILMARK, 12 miles from Salisbury, is a village well

known for its free-stone, and particularly remarkable as the birth-place of John de Chilmarke, a celebrated mathematician, and philosophicial writer, of the 13th century.

CHIPPENHAM, 93 miles from London, is a borough and market-town, on the great London road. It consists principally of one street, which is well built. The church is a large and ancient structure, exhibiting various styles of architecture; some of the monuments are very curious. The bridge over the Avon is of considerable dimensions, and built of free-stone. The charity school is the chief public institution; the town-hall is a mean looking building in the principal street. There are several meeting-houses. The principal manufacture is the woollen. This town is governed by a bailiff, and 12 burgesses, and sends two members to parliament. In the vicinity of Chippenham, are two chalybeate springs, one of which is enclosed in a free-stone building.

Market, Saturday. Fairs, 17 May, 22 June, 29 October, 11 December. Houses, 705. Inhabitant, 3,410.

CLARENDON, two miles from Salisbury, was formerly a Royal Forest, and a place of sport for the early English Monarchs; near the north western extremity was formerly a palace, which tradition ascribes to King John; no mention is made of it, till about a century after the Norman conquest, when Henry II. made it his court and residence. In 1164 that monarch held a council here, in which those laws respecting the limits of the ecclesiastical authority were passed, still called the Constitutions of Clarendon. In the reign of Henry III., this place attained the zenith of its glory. Clarendon palace is now completely in ruins.

COLD KITCHEN HILL, BRIMSDON or BIDCOMBE, near Maiden Bradley, are the several names by which this celebrated hill has been generally known. It displays numerous relics of British antiquities, and presents the most extensive prospects over the adjoining counties.

COMPTON CHAMBERLAYNE HOUSE, eight miles from Salisbury, was once the residence of the gallant Colonel Penruddocke, who was tried at Exeter, April 1655, for an attempt to overthrow the government of

Oliver Cromwell, and to restore Charles II. to the throne. The house contains some fine portraits, and particularly one by Vandyck.

CORSHAM HOUSE, four miles from Chippenham, has long been celebrated for a choice collection of pictures, and is the resort of amateurs and professors. The proprietor Paul Cobb Methuen, Esq., opens the house for public inspection on Tuesday and Friday, when respectable persons are readily admitted. There are several apartments where the pictures are exhibited, and the productions of the old masters are numerous and well selected.

COWSFIELD HOUSE, nine miles from Salisbury, the seat of Sir Arthur Paget, is on Dean Hills, and forms part of White-Parish. This estate is truly a *ferme-ornée*. The fields are surrounded with ornamental hedge-rows and trees, with a turf drive round the hedges. The views are pleasing, extensive and diversified, the New Forest, Isle of Wight, and various other objects, cannot fail to delight the spectator.

CRANBORN CHASE, 12 miles from Salisbury, is an extensive tract, partly in Wiltshire, and partly in Dorsetshire; there are six lodges on the chase, with walks appropriated to each, under the care of a ranger, who holds his office from Lord Rivers. For the preservation of vert and venison, there belongs to this chase a wood or chase court, which is sanctioned by grants, as well as by prescription. The court is convened once a year, and delinquents are punished by fine and imprisonment.

CRICKLADE, 84 miles from London, is a borough town, on the banks of the Isis or Thames. It has two parish churches and a meeting-house. St. Sampson's is a large church, in the form of a cross, with an elegant tower in the centre. St. Mary's church consisting of a nave, two aisles and chancel, is an ancient building, the tower of which is clothed with ivy. The town-house stands on ten pillars in the middle of the principal street.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, 3rd Wednesday in April, and July, 3rd Tuesday in August, and St. Matthews'-day. Number of houses, 279. Inhabitants, 1,556.

DEVIZES, 88¾ miles from London, is a large borough and market-town, situated on elevated ground; the houses, partly constructed of brick, and partly of wood, are disposed into several irregular streets, some of which are paved; the chief trade is the manufacture of woollens, which has increased by the contiguity of the Kennet and Avon Canal. The principal buildings are the town-hall, new gaol, free grammar-school, house of industry, two parish churches, St. John and St. Mary; a chapel of ease, and a meeting-house. A market-cross has been recently erected, at the sole expense of Lord Sidmouth, under the superintendence of B. Wyatt, Esq.

The market is on Thursday. Fairs, 13 February, Holy Thursday, 20 April, 13 June, 5 July, and 2 and 30 October. Number of houses, 725. Inhabitants, 3,750.

DINTON HOUSE, four miles from Wilton, was formerly the residence of Colonel Francis Wyndham, the friend and associate of Colonel Penruddocke; in the time of the civil wars, he favoured the escape of Charles II., after the fatal battle of Worcester.

DANHEAD HALL, near Wardour, was formerly the residence of Sir Godfrey Kneller, and some of the pictures which formed his collection are still on the premises, which are occupied by his grandson.

DOWNTON, 90 miles from London, is a borough by prescription, on the eastern bank of the Avon. It sends two members to parliament, and the right of election is vested in persons having a freehold interest, in burgage tenements held under the Bishop of Winchester. The importance of the town has declined, and the weekly market has been discontinued. This borough has occasioned several contests between the families of Shaftor and Bouverie, but the influence is now in favour of Lord Radnor. The church has been altered, and contains several fine monuments of the Duncombe family, and other distinguished persons. Here is a free school. Dr. Raleigh, grandson of Sir Walter Raleigh was a native of this place.

Fairs, April 23d and October 2d.
Houses, 552. Inhabitants, 2,624.

FARLEY, a small village, near Clarendon, was the ancient residence of the family of Fox: Sir Stephen

Fox, son of William Fox, the first who distinguished himself in public life, was born here in 1627. At the time of the great rebellion, Mr. Fox espoused the royal cause, and accompanied his brother to Paris, after the fatal battle of Worcester. Here he obtained the patronage of Lord Percy, then Lord Chamberlain, who appointed him coffer to the household, aud ultimately pay-master general of the forces in England. Sir Stephen Fox, built a church, and an alms house here, at his own expense: the church is a lofty fabric, and contains several family monuments, the last of which was that of the great statesman, whose fame will outlive these perishable memorials of his fame.

FARLEY CASTLE, about five miles from Trowbridge, contains many remains of antiquity; the armour is well preserved, and ranged in the best order. The tombs are numerous, particularly of the Hungerford family. In its perfect state, the castle consisted of two courts or wards, which were surrounded by a lofty wall and moat. The chapel is the most entire, and is deserving of notice; there is also a chantry chapel; both of them contain monuments.

FONTHILL ABBEY, the seat of W. Beckford, Esq., M.P., is two miles from Hindon. This splendid mansion is one of the most interesting modern buildings in the West of England. The natural features are pleasingly diversified. The exterior elevations are dissimilar, but each is appropriated to the various purposes of an elegant and commodious dwelling. The state-rooms, galleries, libraries, dining-rooms, drawing-rooms, &c., are fitted-up in the most splendid style, and adorned with choice specimens of the fine arts, including the most select literary productions. The building was chiefly erected under the superintendence of Mr. Wyatt, but various artists have been employed to decorate the interior.

HINDON, 96 miles from London, a borough and market-town, principally consists of one street of considerable extent. Silk twist was formerly an important article of manufacture in this place, but it is now on the decline, and the place is principally supported by the road trade. Dowlas, bed-ticks, and linen, are manufactured to a

trifling extent. This town is a borough by prescription, governed by a bailiff and burgesses, and has returned two members to parliament since the time of Henry VII.; the election is vested in the inhabitants not receiving alms. The church is a modern building, and is a chapel of ease to the parish church of East Knoll.

Market on Thursday. Fairs, Monday before Whitsun week, and 29th October. Number of houses, 173. Inhabitants 781.

LACOCK, or LAYCOCK, about three miles from Chippenham, is remarkable for the ruins of its abbey, founded in 1232, by Ela, Countess of Salisbury, who was elected abbess in 1240, and is buried in the church-yard belonging to this building. This abbey was fortified and garrisoned during the civil war between Charles I. and the Parliamentarians; on the top of it is a cistern, capable of holding 110 hogsheads; and in the pleasure grounds is the nuns' caldron, an immense culinary pot, sufficiently large to contain 67 gallons. Lacock is a respectable town, with numerous well-built houses; the church is an ancient building, containing several sepulchral monuments. In one of the streets is a stone cross, in excellent preservation.

LIDDIARD TREGOOZE, is a village, three miles from Wootton Basset. The church is an ancient building, containing two curious genealogical tables, and several monuments relating to the family of St. John. This is said by some to have been the native place of Lord Chancellor Hyde.

LONGLEAT, four miles and a half from Warminster, is the elegant seat of the Marquis of Bath. The situation of the mansion is in every respect desirable; the house is built in the style of architecture prevalent in the 16th century, but partakes more of the Roman than the pointed character. The form of the structure is a parallelogram, and is built of freestone, adorned with pilasters of the Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian orders. The interior is spacious and splendid; considerable alterations have been made by Mr. J. Wyatt, but in every respect corresponding with its original style of architecture. The gardens, conservatories, green-houses, &c., are very extensive, and arranged with great taste.

MALMSBURY, 95 miles from London, is a market town, and one of the most ancient boroughs in the kingdom. It is situated on an eminence, and was formerly surrounded by walls, some vestiges of which still exist. It has only one church, but several meeting-houses, two alms-houses, two free schools, and a Sunday school. The work-house, in Holloway, is an ancient building. In the centre of the town is a market cross, supposed to have been erected in the time of Henry VII., but the most remarkable remains are the ruins of the abbey, to which Malmsbury was formerly indebted for its prosperity. The present vestiges of the church consist of the nave, aisles, porch, and part of the transept. A short distance from the church is the abbot's house, an antique building, in the Gothic style. Here are also many other antiquities, amongst which may be mentioned, the arch at the corporation alms-house, chapel-house, Burton-hill chapel, and the Castle Well. William of Malmsbury, the historian, and Hobbes, the philosopher, were natives of this town. The cloth manufactory at this place was formerly very considerable, but is now very limited. It has also manufactories of glass, leather, glue, and parchment.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, 17th March, 17th April, and 26th May. Number of houses, 243. Inhabitants, 1,152.

MARLBOROUGH, 74 miles from London, is a borough and market town, on the road from London to Bath. It consists principally of one long street, the houses of which are irregularly built. In the middle of the town stand the shambles, and the market-house; the upper part of the latter building contains a council-room, an assembly-room, and a court-room. Near the market-house is St. Mary's church, an ancient building, with a stone tower, and at the western end of the street is St. Peter's church, with a lofty square tower. There are several meeting-houses, and a charity school. The prison used as a county bridewell and gaol, is a commodious and extensive building. The corporation consists of a mayor, two justices, 12 aldermen, and 24 burgesses, with a clerk, and other officers.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, 29th June, 20th July, 15th

August, 21st September, and 11th November. Number of houses, 456. Inhabitants, 2,579.

MELCHETT, or MILSHET PARK, is an object of considerable interest, in consequence of the beautiful Hindoo temple, which has been erected to the memory of Warren Hastings, late governor-general of Bengal; the emblems are numerous and appropriate, and at the entrance of the temple is a bust of Mr. Hastings.

MELKSHAM, seven miles from Devizes, is a market town, irregularly built, and consists principally of one street. The houses are of free-stone, and have a neat appearance. The church is spacious, and contains some curious monuments. There are several meeting-houses. This town was formerly celebrated for superfine cloths and kerseymeres, but the trade has declined.

Market on Monday. There are 13 fairs held here during the year. Houses, 781. Inhabitants, 4,110.

MERE, six miles from Hindon, a small market town, on the borders of Somerset and Dorset, was formerly of some importance. The Prince of Wales, as Duke of Cornwall, is lord of the manor. The principal support of Mere, is the manufacture of dowlas and bed-ticking, chiefly carried on by women. The church, which is the only building worthy of notice, is a spacious edifice with a handsome square tower.

Market on Thursday. Number of houses, 457. Inhabitants, 2,211.

OLDBURY, or OLDBURY CAMP, or CASTLE, situated on a hill near Cherill, is a singular specimen of Roman fortification. Its form is an irregular square, with circular corners. On one side of the hill is the figure of a horse in trotting attitude, cut out of the chalk rock. It was executed under the direction of Dr. Alsop of Calne, and from its elevation may be seen at several miles' distance.

PEN PITTS. Near Stourton, are several thousand holes of various forms and dimensions, extenidng over a surface of nearly 700 acres, on the brows and slopes of two hills. These pits are in some instances double, or divided by small portions of earth. The origin of these curious excavations is unknown, some have supposed them to be made by the ancient Britons, in

digging for stone; but the more probable conjecture is, that they were once human habitations, for it is not unusual in some countries, at this day, to occupy such places as permanent residences. Several battles were fought in the vicinity of this place. In 658, Cenwallus, king of Wessex, defeated the Britons here. In 1001 a bloody battle took place, in which the Danes defeated the Saxons. The third was in 1016, in which king Edmund defeated the Danes, though commanded by Canute.

SALISBURY, or NEW SARUM, 80½ miles from London, is a city of considerable importance. Its situation is a broad vale, near the river Wily, the Avon, and the Bourne. All the streets are laid out at right angles, and through each is conveyed a perpetual stream of water, supplied from the Avon by sluices. Salisbury possesses two discriminating features, the Close and the City. The first is occupied by the cathedral, bishop's palace, deanery, &c., and comprises an area of a mile square; the connected part is three quarters of a mile wide, and nearly of the same extent, from east to west. The houses are chiefly of brick, but there are some old houses built with timber, plaster, &c. The principal buildings are, the cathedral, the bishop's palace, the council-house, infirmary, gaol, and the churches of St. Edmund, St. Thomas, and St. Martin. The corporation consists of a mayor, recorder, deputy-recorder, 24 aldermen, and 30 assistants. The mayor is always elected according to the charter, in the presence of the bishop, but in his absence the oath is administered by the recorder. The other officers are, a chamberlain, high steward, town-clerk, three serjeants at mace, two beadles, four constables, and 13 sub-constables. The mayor and 10 aldermen are justices of the peace within the city. Cutlery as well as woollen goods are manufactured here to some extent,. The cathedral church is admired as an interesting specimen of the architecture of the 13th century, and may be considered the most uniform structure of the kind in the kingdom. It consists of a nave, with two lateral aisles, a lofty porch, projecting on the north side near the west end; a large transept, with an eastern aisle; a choir with lateral aisles, and a second, or small transept, with an aisle; a chapel at the east end with an intermediate vestibule, or double aisle,

terminating the choir; on the south side are, a cloister, chapter-house, consistory court, and a vestry. The western front, and upper part of the tower, with the whole of the spire, are of later date than the body of the church. Over the central door, at the west end, is a lofty window, filled with modern stained glass. Two windows at the east end, also have stained glass, from designs by Sir Joshua Reynolds, and Mortimer. The stalls, bishop's throne, organ-screen, and organ, are all of modern date; some of the carved wood-work is well executed, and the organ screen is beautiful. The monuments are numerous, and exhibit curious specimens of various periods. The members belonging to the cathedral are, a bishop, dean, precentor, 45 prebendaries, four vicars, and petty canons, six singing men, eight choristers, organist, &c. The bishop's palace is of considerable extent, and has undergone various alterations, by the numerous personages who have resided there. The gardens have also been considerably improved by the present occupier. The whole is encompassed by a wall, on the east, south, and west, and the cloisters close in the northern end. In the drawing-room are some excellent portraits of bishops, from Bishop Duppa to the present time. The diocese of Salisbury contains the whole of Wiltshire, with the exception of two parishes, Kingswood and Whitesbury, and all Berkshire, except the parish of Chilton, and the chapelry of Little Farington, in all 544 parishes, of which 109 are in propriations. Chubb, the celebrated controversial writer, was a native of Salisbury, also Dr. Harris the historian and biographer, Tobin the poet, Feltham, and many other distinguished persons. Number of houses, 1,575. Inhabitants, 8,243.

SARUM, (OLD), one mile and three quarters from Salisbury, though almost a desolate waste, is interesting to the topographer and the antiquary, as the seat of former grandeur, having once been a populous and flourishing city. It is the general opinion, that Sarum was built before the invasion of the Romans, but was one of the stations of that warlike people. Kenrick, the son of Cerdic, besieged and captured Old Sarum, in 552. It appears from documents in the Cottonian library, that king Alfred gave some orders respecting the fortifications of Old Sarum. Edgar convoked a parliament at Old Sarum, to

consult respecting the best mode of defence against the Danes. In 1003, Swein, king of Denmark, is said to have pillaged and burnt the castle. In 1095, or 1096, another great council was held here by William Rufus. Herman established his episcopal seat here; and according to Godwin, laid the foundation of a cathedral church. King Henry held his court here for some months, in 1100; and again in 1106, and 1116, he assembled all the nobles, &c., to swear allegiance, and do homage to his son William. Bishop Roger also tendered his oath to the same effect, but in consequence of the treatment which he met with, he is supposed to have died of grief, in 1139. From this time till 1142, the bishopric of Sarum continued vacant. Joceline de Bailul was afterwards consecrated, and presided over this see for 41 years, when he retired to a convent, and assumed the habit of a Cistercian monk. Hubert Walter, the successor of Joceline, as bishop of Sarum, was consecrated in 1189, and in 1190, accompanied Richard I. in his expedition to the Holy Land. On the elevation of Hubert to the see of Canterbury, Herbert Pauper, or Poore, was installed in the bishopric of Sarum. During his prelacy, the contentions of the castellanes and canons became more serious than at any former period; and in consequence of several acts of oppression on the part of the garrison, the bishops and canons determined to provide a place of greater freedom; and with this view Herbert applied to king Richard for liberty to build a new church in the valley, at some distance from the castle; the monarch readily assented, but it was given up in consequence of the expense. Herbert died in 1219, and was succeeded by his brother Richard Poore, who was then bishop of Salisbury. In the year after his instalment, the dean and chapter sent special messengers to Rome, to urge the necessity of translating the church to a more eligible place, and the Pope being satisfied with their representations, a church was built on the site of the present cathedral of Salisbury; from that time may be dated the ruin of Old Sarum.

This borough has long been a subject of popular notoriety. It has continued to send two members to parliament since the 34th of Edward III., and in the 23d of Edward I. it was represented in parliament. Whether this privilege

be derived from charter, or is a prescriptive right, does not appear, but the property of the borough is vested in the Earl of Caledon, who purchased it of Lord Camelford. In the general election, 1802, there were five electors assembled, besides the bailiff, who is the returning officer.

SELWOOD FOREST. The celebrated Coitmawr, or Forest of Selwood, formerly occupied a portion of this county, and a considerable part of Somersetshire. It was in this forest that King Alfred, with a few followers, defied the valour of the Danes, and ultimately obliged them to sue for peace on his own conditions.

STONEHENGE, two miles from Amesbury, is an ancient memorial of the industry and ingenuity of former times, but now a heap of ruins. It appears to have been a monumental pillar, but by whom erected, and for what purpose, is a mystery, notwithstanding the minute antiquarian research of eminent men. Many of the stones have been squared or hewn by art, and on the top of the outer circle has been raised a continued row of squared stones attached to the upright by mortises and tenons, or in other words regular cavities in the horizontal stones, and projecting knobs on those that stand. Inigo Jones and Webb were of opinion that it was a temple of the Romans, dedicated to Cœlus; this has not been borne out by any evidence. Dr. Charleton contends, that it was erected by the Danes: but this monument existed before any Danish army had settled in England. Aylett Sammes next entered the list, and contended that the building was erected by the Phœnicians. Bishop Gibson, who edited *Camden's Britannia*, published in 1694, asserts that it is a British monument, since it does not appear that any other nation had such possession of this kingdom as to be authors of such a rude, yet magnificent pile: in this opinion the bishop was not singular. Dr. Stukeley attributes it to the Druids. Wood considers that it was erected by the British Druids. Cooke supposes Stonehenge to have been a place sacred to the Druids, and appropriated to the meeting of great assemblies on civil or religious duties. Mr. Smith, who has written on the subject, thinks it was erected by the Druids for astronomical observations, as well as for religious ceremonials. Davies, the learned author of *Celtic Researches*,

&c., is of opinion that it was built by the ancient Britons. In short, the opinions have been so various and contradictory, that at this late period there is no prospect of ascertaining the precise history of this extraordinary place. The surrounding plain is covered with a profusion of barrows. Many of these were opened by Sir Richard Hoare and Mr. Cunnington, and were found to contain, in some instances, bists filled with burnt bones, and in other, entire skeletons, with various relics of British art. This spot is termed the *Wonder of the West*.

STOURHEAD, two miles from Mere, is the seat of Sir Richard Colt Hoare, Bart., and is situated at the extreme verge of the county. Considerable alterations have been made in this mansion since its original erection, principally consisting of two wings, one of which is a picture gallery and the other a library. The pictures by the old masters are well deserving of notice; also several national antiquities, and a cabinet of exquisite workmanship, which formerly belonged to Pope Sextus V. The pleasure-grounds are truly picturesque, and temples are interspersed with other objects of attraction throughout the extensive grounds. The grotto or cave contains a perpetual fountain and cold-bath. The pantheon is built on the model of the celebrated building in Rome, and contains many fine specimens of sculpture. The stone cross and Peter's pump are objects of attraction. In the grounds is a monument, erected to the memory of King Alfred by the grandfather of the present proprietor.

SWINDON, 10 miles from Marlborough, is a market town, situated on an eminence. The church at the extremity of the town is neatly fitted up, though its exterior has by no means an imposing appearance. In Newport Street is a free school, established in 1764; and adjoining the church-yard may be seen a mill of singular construction. In the vicinity of this place are large stone quarries.

Market on Monday. Fairs, Monday before April 5, second Monday after 11th May, September, and October. Number of houses, 263; inhabitants, 1,341.

TIDWORTH, two miles from Ludgershall. The manor house is said to have been haunted by an invisible drummer. This story forms the plot of Addison's comedy

of the *Drummer*, or *the Haunted Tower*. The house was a place of some notoriety in the reign of Charles II.

TOTTENHAM PARK, the seat of the Earl of Aylesbury, is situated near the extremity of Savernake Forest. The house is a handsome brick building, containing many fine portraits. In the park, opposite the mansion, is a column raised in honour of Charles Earl of Aylesbury.

TROWBRIDGE, 98 miles from London, is a considerable market and manufacturing town, and, like many other manufacturing places, is irregularly built. The streets are inconvenient, and there are but few houses that can be termed handsome. This not being an incorporated town, the government is vested in the county magistrates, who hold the petty sessions alternately at this place and at Bradford. The church, dedicated to St. John, is upwards of 400 years old; it is a spacious structure, and some of the windows contain painted glass; the monuments are numerous. The charitable institutions are an alms-house and a school for boys. There are several meeting-houses in this place.

Market on Saturday. Fair, August 5. Houses, 1,171; inhabitants, 6,075.

WARDOUR CASTLE, six miles from Shaftesbury, the seat of the Arundel family, is a spacious and superb mansion, erected about 1784 from the designs of Mr. Paine; the principal entrance is on the road between Salisbury and Shaftesbury. The building is of free-stone, and consists of a centre and two wings. The entrance front is handsomely ornamented with pilasters and half-columns of the Corinthian order. The hall, which is spacious, conducts to the rotunda staircase, which demands the admiration of every person who has the least pretension to taste or science, as it is considered an unrivalled specimen of modern architectural ornament. The doors are mahogany. The rooms, which are numerous and elegant, contain many fine paintings, and curious productions of art. In the west wing of the house is the chapel, built by Paine; but the sanctuary has been added by Soane. The side walls are divided into compartments, which are filled with paintings. The altar is fixed on a superb sarcophagus of *verde antique*, dug from the vici-

nity of Rome; over the whole is a magnificent crucifix of silver, and two censers of solid gold richly embossed. The altar-piece is a dead Christ. There is a superb state bed in the same wing, fitted up for Charles I. when he paid a visit to Lord Arundel. The grounds, which present a diversity of appearance, are adorned with numerous plantations.

WARMINSTER, 97 miles from London, a considerable market town of great antiquity, has no corporation within itself, but is under the government of the county magistrates, with the aid of constables, chosen at the court leet of the Marquis of Bath, who is lord of the manor. Malting is carried on to a considerable extent, also the manufacture of woollen cloth. The town chiefly consists of one long street, and possesses a neat church, a chapel of ease, and meeting-houses. The other public buildings are an assembly-room, free grammar-school, and a good market-house.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, April 22, Aug. 10, and October 23. Number of houses, 1,073; inhabitants, 4,866.

WESTBURY, 97 miles from London, a borough and market town, consists principally of one long street, running nearly in a direction north and south. The town is governed by a mayor, recorder, and 12 capital burgesses. The principal manufacture is that of woollen-cloths. The church is a large ancient structure, and contains several monuments of distinguished personages.

Market on Friday. Fairs, first Friday in Lent, and on Whit-Monday. Number of houses, 353; inhabitants, 1,790.

WHITE HORSE. This curious monument is situated on the south-west declivity of the hill near Eddington. The figure of a horse is cut from the rock, and appears in a walking attitude; it measures from the foot to the ear 100 feet, and from the ear to the end of the tail 100 feet. Gough considered it a memorial of the battle of Eddington; but Mr. Wise, in his *Dissertation on the White Horse of Berkshire*, assures us that this is a modern production, and was cut within the memory of persons living at the time he visited it in 1742. This part of the country is supposed to have been the scene of the

battle of Ethandun, where Alfred obtained a signal victory over the Danes, and forced them to sue for peace.

WILTON, 83 miles from London, the shire town, and a place of great antiquity, is memorable for numerous battles recorded in the early history of the country. This town is a borough by prescription and by charter; and is governed by a mayor, recorder, five aldermen, three capital burgesses, 11 common councilmen, with town-clerk and other officers. Wilton sends two members to parliament. The public buildings are the church and town-hall, a free-school and meeting-houses. The first carpet manufactured in England was made at Wilton; but this business has declined, and a small trade in flannels and fancy woollens only remains.

Market on Wednesday. Fairs, May 4, and September 12. Number of houses, 393; inhabitants, 1,963.

WILTON HOUSE, the seat of the Herbert family, has been erected at different periods, and displays various styles of architecture. It was formerly an abbey, but has been recently altered and enlarged by Mr. Wyatt. At various periods, Inigo Jones, Webb, and others, have been employed in this mansion. Charles I. was partial to this place, and frequently resided here. The statues, busts, basso-relievos, &c., are very numerous and extremely curious. The gallery of pictures is very extensive, and exhibits some of the admirable productions of the old masters. The grand triumphal arch is surmounted by an equestrian statue of Marcus Aurelius, and forms a noble entrance to the mansion.

WOTTON BASSET, 5½ miles from Swindon, is a borough and market town, consisting principally of one street. The houses are most of them brick and thatched. It sends two members to parliament. The corporation consists of a mayor, two aldermen, and 12 burgesses. The church is an ancient but not a remarkable building. In the centre of the town stand the shambles, the market-house, and town-hall.

Market on Friday. Fairs, May 4, November 13, and December 19. Number of houses, 325; inhabitants, 1,390.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

Length 30 miles. Breadth 20. Circumference 124. Square miles 674. Square acres 431,360. Hundreds 5. Market towns, 11. Parishes 167. Houses 31,266. Persons 165,900.—Diocese of Worcester.—Oxford Circuit.—Members to Parliament 9.—Militia-men 800.

BOUNDARIES, &c.—Worcestershire may be considered as nearly in the centre of the kingdom; it is bounded by Herefordshire on the west, by Staffordshire and Shropshire on the north and north-west, Warwickshire and Gloucestershire on the east and south-east, with Gloucestershire on its southern borders; its shape is irregular, and detached parts are surrounded by other counties. The climate is considered mild, soft, healthy and salubrious; the vale of Severn is very warm and vegetation is there very early. The Breedon hills and Lickey, are the only parts that can be esteemed bleak; the Malvern hills though merely sheep-walks, are remarkable for salubrity of climate. It is considered that less rain falls in this than in other counties. The principal forests of this county are Feckenham, Malvern, Horewell, Ombersley and Wyne. There are also many tracts of woodland, consisting of oak, ash, and beech; elm also is plentiful.

SOIL is various in this county. The northern parts of Worcester consist of rich loamy sand, with a small proportion of gravel; towards the east, light sand, clay, and peat earth are found, but in general it is a strong clay. Between Worcester and the vale of Evesham, the soil is red marl and strong clay, with some sandy loam; there is also a small vein of land which partakes of each of these qualities; whilst the subsoil, particularly under the sandy loam, consists of limestone. In the vale the soil is particularly deep, a dark-coloured earth on a substratum of clay and gravel. On the confines of the county, including the Cotswold Hills, limestone prevails on the upper land, and rich loam on the lower. About Malvern chase, there is a deep surface of clay,



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MALVERN ABBEY.

and in some places a rich loam, inclining to sand; in the central parts of the western district, strong clay predominates. There is no part of this county so barren or neglected, as to be destitute of agreeable verdure. Coal is found near Mamble, where there is a railway to Leominster canal. Quartz is found on the Malvern Hills. Freestone is found in the parish of Cleeve Prior. Near Dudley are limestone quarries.

AGRICULTURE.—The farms in this county are not in general large, and vary from 40*l.* to 320*l.* per annum. The tenures are various; there is a considerable quantity of freeholds; copyholds, with the usual fines, are frequent, and here are also some church and corporate leaseholds, with small reserved rents; enclosures have much increased. The cattle are the mixed breeds of other counties, having no particular character, and Worcestershire is more celebrated for fattening than rearing them.

MANUFACTURES in Worcestershire are numerous and important. The county being surrounded by others of commercial importance, particularly by the mining and manufacturing districts, is rendered a highly advantageous medium of communication. Hops, cider, perry, and fruit abound here; the exports are carpets and other woollen articles, gloves, china, glass, nails, bar-rod, sheet-iron, and numerous small articles of iron-work, salt, oil cake, clover, grass seeds, corn, malt, beans, flour, salmon, fat cattle, timber, hay, &c.

RIVERS.—The SEVERN enters this county near Bewdley, which it separates from Writtenhall in Kidderminster; it passes Ribbesford, the Blackstone rocks, Areley and Mitton, and receives the Stour and the canal at Stourport; then gliding by Redstone ferry to Hartlebury and Holtcastle, it receives the Salwarp and the Droitwich canal, and in its course to Worcester, the Beverburn and Otterwater; the current thus increased, it receives the Teme one mile below Worcester, and passing Kemsey and Upton to Tewkesbury, unites with the Avon and enters another county. Salmon is not so plentiful in this river as formerly, but shad are in high perfection.

The Severn is an important river for navigation, and

admits ships of considerable burthen to Gloucester and Worcester.

The AVON rises near Naseby in Northamptonshire; and after dividing Warwickshire, in nearly equal proportions, enters this county near Cleeve Prior, where it receives the Arrow, a small river rising in the Lickey, then flows through the parish of Littleton to Offenham and Evesham, and retiring northwards, skirts Hampton, and proceeds by Fladbury, Croome, and Strensham, to the Severn at Tewkesbury. In this course it is augmented by several streams, and is navigable for barges throughout the county.

The TEME, rises in Radnorshire, and at Tenbury enters this county, in the centre of which a rapid brook runs into it from Kyre Park; it then pursues a devious and rapid course, through a succession of beautiful and romantic scenery, by the villages of Eastham, Lyndridge, and Stockton; and after flowing through the woods and dales of Stanford park, to Clifton and Martley, passes under Knightford Bridge to Broadwas, Coleridge, Burnsford Bridge, and Pawick Bridge, when it enters the Severn, about two miles below Worcester. This river is not navigable for barges beyond Pawick bridge, in consequence of its rapidity; but it forms a picturesque ornament to the vale of Teme, which is scarcely to be surpassed in rural scenery.

The STOUR has become of some consequence, since the canal, which unites the Severn and the Mersey, has been cut along its banks; it rises near Frankley on the borders of Staffordshire, and runs alternately in both counties, by Hales-Owen and Cradley, to Stourbridge, Kniver, Kidderminster, and Stourport, where it joins the Severn.

The SALWARPE commences from the Lickey, and flows through Bromsgrove, Stoke Prior and Droitwich, to the new canal in Salwarpe parish; it then passes Westwood House, and enters the Severn below Hawford-bridge.

The LEDDEN rises near Ledbury, in Herefordshire, and forms a boundary between this county and Gloucestershire on the south-west.

The RED takes its rise near Chadwick, and flowing by Northfield and Kings Norton, forms a partial boundary for Staffordshire and Warwickshire; then running northwards towards Birmingham it quits the county. A brook of this name rises near Cleobury, and flows between Worcester and Tenbury.

CANALS abound in this county, and the advantages which they confer on the commercial interest, are incalculable: the limits of our work will not admit of a particular description of the various canals, we must therefore merely enumerate them. The Trent and Severn, or Staffordshire and Worcestershire, or, as it is frequently called, the Stourport canal; the Droitwich canal; the Worcester and Birmingham canal; the Dudley extension canal; and the Leominster canal near Tenbury.

Remarkable Places.

BEWDLEY, three miles from Kidderminster, is delightfully situated on the banks of the Severn, in the centre of an extensive manufacturing district, but being in the parish of Ribbesford, has only a chapel of ease for the accommodation of its inhabitants, independently of meeting-houses. The town-hall is a neat modern building. The market-place consists of a long range of neat and convenient sheds. In the reign of James I., it had two markets in the week, and four annual fairs; it has now only one market day, and three fairs. The town is chiefly supported by its navigation, and the inhabitants boast of their vessels and able crews. The tanning of leather is an important branch of trade. Dutch, or sailors' caps are made here to a considerable extent, as well as works in horn; a flannel manufactory has also been established. The corporation of Bewdley returns but one member, and consists of a recorder, high steward, and 12 capital burgesses. Lord Lyttelton is lord of the manor, high steward, recorder, &c.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, 23d April, 10th and 11th December. Houses, 669. Inhabitants, 3,454.

BREDON HILL, five miles from Tewksbury, is an immense mountainous mass, dividing the Vale of Evesham from the Cotswold district, and the approach to it on the side of Pershore, is extremely pleasing, being interspersed with farms, villas, and plantations, almost to its very sum-

mit, whence there is an extensive prospect of the three Vales of Evesham, Cotswold, and Severn.

BROMSGROVE, 15 miles from Worcester, consists principally of one street, which contains many good houses; the old houses are curiously ornamented and striped, and their frames are wood. The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, is Gothic, and the tower and spire are remarkable objects, as specimens of the antique Gothic: the mouldings are highly ornamented, and there are statues of St. John, St. Peter, and St. Paul. The windows contain some excellent painted glass, and the monuments are worthy of notice. The ascent to the church-yard is by 50 steps. The local jurisdiction consists of a court baron, which sits once every three weeks, in the town-hall. There are three remarkable echoes in this place. At Barnet Green, in this parish, is a chalybeate spring, also a petrifying well. The manufactures are, linen, needles, nails, &c. Here is a grammar school, founded by Edward I.; this place returns two members to parliament. Market on Tuesday. Number of houses, 1,419. Inhabitants, 6,932.

CROOME COURT, near Upton, is the elegant seat of the Earl of Coventry. The entrance to the grounds is by a handsome lodge, where a fine sheet of water presents itself in the distance, and an elegant bridge conducts to the house, which is a large modern building; its architecture is simple, and utility rather than ornament has been kept in view in its exterior appearance. In the saloon are some good family pictures. In the drawing-room are portraits of George III. and his consort, with some exquisite landscapes. The drawing-room contains some remarkably fine tapestry of the Gobeline manufacture. The hall has a marble floor, and the long room occupies one complete side of the building. The green and hot-houses are supplied with every rarity. The church, which is near the house, contains the family monuments.

DAILSFORD, four miles from Moreton, was the residence of Mr. Warren Hastings, the well known governor of India; the building is handsome, and fitted up in the best style.

DROITWICH, six miles from Worcester, a small village on the banks of the Salwarpe, was a populous place

in the time of William the Conqueror. In the civil wars the inhabitants signalized themselves by their attachment to their monarch, who made this his head-quarters in 1645, when his army besieged the rebels in Hawkesley House. Salt works have been established since 816. The great substratum of the vicinity of Droitwich is salt-rock, which is generally 150 or 200 feet below the level, and pits may be sunk at a moderate expense. The salt-springs of this place contain stronger brine than any other pits in the kingdom. The corporation of this town consists of two bailiffs, and an indefinite number of burgesses of the salt springs, in general about 15.

Market on Friday. Fairs, 13th April, 18th June, 22d September, and 21st December. Number of houses, 435. Inhabitants, 2,079.

DUDLEY, 19 miles from Birmingham, is partly in Staffordshire, and completely insulated by that county. The castle stands on the summit of a lime-stone hill, above the towu, and commands an extensive view over seven English and two Welch counties. It is in a dilapidated state, and the gateway and wall only are in this county. In the town are two churches, both united in one vicarage; they contain some ancient stained glass, and monuments of ancient knights in armour. On the outside of St. Thomas's church are some remains of ancient knights and dames, which the rude hands of ignorance have greatly defaced. Here are three charity schools, a free school, and numerous Sunday schools. The manufactures are, iron and glass. The population of this place has greatly increased of late years. Dudley possesses a handsome assembly-room, music gallery, &c.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, May 8th, August 5th, and October 2d. Houses, 2,723. Inhabitants, 13,925.

ELMLEY CASTLE, four miles and a half from Pershore, stands on the Bredon Hills, a short distance from Evesham, and was the earliest settlement of the family of Beauchamp; the church of Worcester possessed it before the Conquest, after which it went to Walter de Beauchamp, from whom it was transferred to Henry VIII., who presented it to the family of the Savages. Fuller asserts that Bishop Bonner was born here, and that he was the son of a priest in Cheshire, of the name of Savage,

but that his mother had been, before his birth, married to a poor man, of her own rank.

EVESHAM, six miles from Pershore. The tower, which is nearly all that remains of the abbey church, is a prominent object on entering the town. The present church is a venerable building, kept in good repair, and contains a few monuments. Here are also four meeting-houses, and two free-schools. The town-hall, an ancient building, on arches, serves for the public business of the town, and also for an assembly-room. Evesham supplies the neighbouring county with fruit and vegetables, which are sent as far as Bath and Yorkshire; these articles form a very important part of trade amongst the poor of the town and its vicinity. Drills, and other agricultural implements are made here. There are several mills on a large scale, particularly an oil mill. Hugh de Evesham, a physician and reputed astrologer, was a native of this place. The Vale of Evesham is a term applied generally to this neighbourhood.

Market on Monday. Fairs, 2d February, Monday after Easter week, Whit Monday, and 21st September. Houses, 674. Inhabitants, 3,063.

FARNHAM ABBEY, near Tewksbury, is a modern Gothic building, erected by Sir John Coterel, Bart., on the summit of a hill, but well sheltered by plantations. Having been recently the occasional retreat of the late Walsh Porter, it exhibits evident marks of his peculiar taste for rural scenery, and picturesque effect.

FECKENHAM, seven miles from Droitwich, contains a neat church, with many curious monuments. The inhabitants are celebrated for the manufacture of needles; and the iron trade is carried on to a considerable extent. In this place is an endowed school, which is well conducted. This was the birth-place of John de Fakenham, whose proper name was Howman; his parents were poor people, but, in consequence of his early indications of genius, the priest of the parish took him into Evesham monastery, whence he was removed to Gloucester College, Oxford; but, on his return to Evesham, that abbey being dissolved, he had an allowance from the exchequer. He was committed as a prisoner to the Tower during the changes of the Reformation, but was

released by Sir Philip Hobie to dispute on matters of religion against the Protestants. He held controversies with Cranmer, Ridley, and Latimer, a short time previous to their martyrdom. Number of houses, 385; inhabitants, 2,135.

GREAT MALVERN, nine miles from Worcester, is a place of great antiquity, and, independently of its ecclesiastical history, holds a distinguished rank amongst places of fashionable resort. This village, although nearly two miles from the holy well, is the principal residence of the visiters; for whose accommodation there are 60 and 70 houses, many of which have gardens and plantations. From the different parts of the village the aspect of the hills is bold, and the ascent abrupt. The huge rocks that present themselves on the surface produce a romantic effect, when viewed in connexion with the surrounding cultivation. The hotels and boarding-houses are fitted up in good style. Those who are able to ascend the hills will on one side behold a fine champaign country of the most cultivated and luxuriant kind, interspersed with all the objects that can render the whole truly delightful. In the distance are seen the hills of Whitley, Woodbury, and Abberley; also the Clent, the Wrekin, the Lickey, the Broadway, and Cotswold hills, &c. On the opposite side are delightful valleys, exhibiting hop-grounds, gentlemen's seats, gardens, swelling hills covered with variegated woods, presenting at the same time a range of mountains extending to Brecknockshire and Monmouthshire, including the hills of Abergavenny and Ledbury Mount. "It is beyond the power of the antiquary," says a modern writer, "to describe the beautiful prospects from this hill. If a distant view delights, here you may see more than nine counties, the cathedrals of Worcester, Gloucester, and Hereford, with numerous market towns. If you are pleased with a nearer view, the pear and apple trees of Worcestershire, when in bloom, furnish such a scene as the world besides cannot equal. On the western side the apple-trees in Herefordshire, with their purple hue, make an agreeable variety. If to the beauty of the situation we add the salubrity and pureness of the air, we may venture to report, says Dr. Nash, that at least for

the summer months, Malvern is as desirable a residence as any in England. The height of the Malvern Hills, particularly the Herefordshire beacon, is stated at 1,444 feet. Dr. Nash states them at 1,313 feet above the level of the Severn, at Haxley. On the western side, the rocks are covered with a fine turf; on the eastern, or Worcestershire side, there are several quarries worked in different places, and at different heights. Felspar, hornblende, quartz, and mica, forming different compound rocks, constitute the greater part of the range. The western declivity of the hill contains limestone. The church of Malvern is rich in ornament, the architecture light, and much resembles a cathedral both in form and size. The whole is 171 feet long, and 63 broad. The beautiful embattled tower is 124 feet high, and the open work gives it a light and elegant appearance. Sir Reginald Bray, who was a favourite of Henry VII., and a connoisseur in architecture, after exhibiting his skill in the superintendence of the chapel at Westminster Abbey, and St. George at Windsor, built this church, nearly in the state in which it now stands, but only part of the old painted glass, portraits, &c., remain. From the appearance of Saxon arches, and other parts of the building, some have imagined that Sir Reginald only restored the church, which has recently undergone a thorough repair. Many of the monuments are objects of curiosity. ST. ANNE'S WELL rises from the hill at the back of the Crown hotel, and a road conducts to it through the garden of that house. The side is so steep as to render it necessary to cut steps in a zigzag direction; there are seats at proper distances, from which the prospects are enchanting. A small pump-room is attached to this well. Near this place is a spring that affords a lightly impregnated chalybeate water, of which kind this is considered most free from earthy or calcareous matter of any in the kingdom. It is recommended for consumptions, nervous disorders, and emaciated constitutions.

Number of houses, 208. Inhabitants, 1,205.

HAGLEY, two miles from Stourbridge, was built by the first Lord Lyttelton, and is considered a plain but classical building, with every convenience for a moderate family; it is surrounded by a lawn, with a diversified sur-

face, and the plantations are judiciously and tastefully arranged. The house is a parallelogram, and the south front is adorned with an elegant double range of steps, from the platform of which the prospect is very extensive. The bath is lined with shells and spars, like a grotto. The library is extensive and valuable, and decorated with several fine busts, bequeathed to George Lord Lyttelton, by Pope, whose portrait, with that of his dog Bounce, constitutes one of the embellishments of this apartment; the other parts of this noble mansion contain numerous productions of eminent masters, both in painting and sculpture; the family pictures in particular are very numerous. The ceiling of the drawing-room was painted by Cipriani, and represents Flora scattering her treasures, and the Seasons in the corners. In short, the productions of art so far surpass most other collections both as to number and merit, that it is impossible to do the subject justice within the limits of this work. The church is at a short distance from the house, and is very ancient; it was dedicated to St. John Baptist, in the reign of Henry III. A fine Gothic arch conducts to the chancel, ornamented with a curious window of painted glass; the whole of the ceiling and chancel are covered with armorial shields of the family. The monuments are extremely curious. The remarkable places in the grounds are the Prince of Wales's pillar; an octagonal seat, sacred to the memory of Thomson, erected on the brow of a verdant steep, his favourite spot; Jacob's Well, an Ionic rotunda, a Palladian Bridge, an Urn, inscribed to Pope, the tower, the seat of contemplation, a hermitage, the Tyrian lawn, the root house, Shenstone's urn, and the statue of Venus de Medicis. There is much to gratify curiosity in the neighbourhood of Hagley, particularly some specimens of Roman antiquity.

HOLYWELL, two miles from Great Malvern, is much frequented. The road to this place is in excellent order; on one side are swelling hills, on the other neighbouring villas, surrounded by verdant foliage, beyond which is an extensive plain, uniting itself with the vale of Severn, and all its picturesque beauty. The Wells boarding-house is a handsome building; from the garden, which is tastefully arranged, the visiter ascends to the well. A large hotel

and billiard-room have been established here. This well, like others in the vicinity, is remarkable for extraordinary purity, in which it excels all others hitherto known. When drunk immediately, on being taken from the well, it leaves a peculiar tartness in the throat, and it mixes freely with acids or alkalies.

HANBURY HALL, 10 miles from Worcester, was erected in 1710, and is in the peculiar style of that period, the mansion is spacious, and the hall and staircases painted with allegories, and mythological subjects, by Sir Godfrey Kneller, who has in one part introduced Dr. Sacheverell, carried away by furies; besides several pictures, there are other attractions, particularly the view of a well wooded park, with pleasing breaks to afford variety of prospect. The parish is small, but the view from the church is very pleasing. The church contains a handsome monument of Counsellor Vernon, whose heiress married into the noble family of Exeter.

HARTLEBURY CASTLE, five miles from Kidderminster, has for many centuries been the residence of the Bishops of Worcester, and is not only an elegant but an agreeable residence. Bishop Hurd made considerable alterations here, and furnished it with a valuable library for the use of future prelates; amongst the choice books, are many from the libraries of Pope and Bishop Warburton. The noble mansion is built of brick; many of the windows are finished with plain Gothic arches, and the roof is lined with battlements, with some turrets and belfries. The prospect is extensive and picturesque.

HEWELL GRANGE, near Bromsgrove, is the seat of the Earl of Plymouth, and has been recently fitted-up in a style equal to its former splendour; it stands in the midst of a pleasant park, where there is a lake which occupies 30 acres. The plantations are on a large scale, and oak abounds in every possible stage of growth. In the church is a chancel called Sir Thomas Cooke's, who died in 1702, and was buried pursuant to his will, with a gold chain and locket round his neck, and two diamond rings of small value, on his fingers. It is said that a relative of the deceased visited the grave about 1750, with a hook and a pair of tongs, and rifled the dead of these ornaments.

KIDDERMINSTER, 124 miles from London, is very extensive, well-built, and divided by the river Stour; the streets are clean, and well paved, and every attention is paid to the comfort and convenience of the inhabitants. The appearance of this place at a distance is peculiar, as many of the houses on the skirts of the town are cut out of the rock. The church, which stands in a good situation, is a noble Gothic pile, and the windows contain some rich tracery. The tower is beautiful, and the whole building is in excellent order; even the recent improvements in the interior have been effected with uncommon care, to preserve the uniformly Gothic appearance of the whole building. There are numerous tombs worthy of notice. The Gothic chapel has been converted into a free school. The charity schools are numerous; there is also an alms-house and a dispensary. The town-hall is a heavy structure, the council room is on the principal story, and the lower part is occupied as a market-house, shops, &c. The gaol is under this place. The manufactures are extensive, particularly in carpets, which are much esteemed, not only for their quality, but their brilliant colours, which are partly attributed to the properties of the water, in which the wool is dyed. The walks on the banks of the Stour, and the Staffordshire canal, are very rural; at Roundhill, not far distant, is a chalybeate spring, and there is another at Sandburn. The town has an assembly room, reading societies, a billiard room, and other places of amusement. The municipal government of the town is administered by a recorder, bailiff, and the justices; the corporation consists of 12 aldermen, and 25 common-councilmen. Formerly this place returned two members to parliament, but the privilege no longer remains. Dissenters are numerous here. Richard Baxter was for many years Vicar of Kidderminster. Baskerville, the celebrated printer, was born near this place.

Market on Thursday. Fairs, Holy Thursday, and 4th September. Houses, 1,618. Inhabitants, 8,038.

KING'S NORTON is a small village and chapelry of Bromsgrove parish; the chapel is not much inferior to that at Bromsgrove, having a lofty and elegant spire, curiously ornamented; in the windows, is a considerable quantity of painted glass. The Worcester and Birming-

ham canal passes through a hill near this place, and the tunnel cannot fail to attract the notice of travellers; it is 16 feet wide, and 18 feet high, and so perfectly straight, that it may be seen through, although it extends to the distance of two miles.

LITTLE MALVERN, three miles from Great Malvern, much inferior to the other, was formerly a considerable village, but now contains only a few houses. The church, although in ruins, forms a highly picturesque object, being covered with ivy; the beautiful painted windows are nearly all destroyed. The rides and walks in this neighbourhood are enchanting.

MADRESFIELD, near Upton, the splendid seat of Lord Viscount Beauchamp, is an old baronial mansion, and has undergone very extensive alterations, to render it convenient, as a country residence. The house is almost buried in trees, and the grounds possess a wild and romantic appearance. The saloon contains a considerable quantity of painted glass, which produces a grand effect. The dining-rooms are magnificently furnished; in one of them is a curious cabinet, which belonged to Louis XVI. In the state bed-room is a quilt and furniture of flowered damask, embroidered in coloured silks, worked by Queen Anne, and the Duchess of Marlborough. The other rooms are most sumptuously furnished.

NORTHWIC, near Evesham. In this village, is the seat of Lord Northwic. The house is an ancient structure. Amongst the portraits is an original of Addison. Lord Burlington made considerable alterations in this place, in the early part of the last century; but it is said that three of the best rooms were then destitute of fireplaces.

OMBERSLEY COURT, four miles from Droitwich, is the seat of the Marchioness of Downshire; the view towards the river is pleasing and picturesque. This noble building consists of a centre and two wings, and the whole has undergone considerable repairs. The staircase contains a large painting, executed in tolerable style, by Fuller, representing the leading whigs of Queen Anne's reign, generally known as the Junto: they are full-length figures of the Duke of Devonshire, Lords Halifax, Somers,

Wharton, Sunderland, and Orford. The portraits in this mansion are numerous, and by eminent masters.

RIBBESFORD, one mile from Bewdley, is stated to be a lordship of Bewdley parish, but distinct from it as to municipal government; still Ribbesford church is the parish church, and its yard is the sole burying ground for the whole district. The church, dedicated to St. Leonard, is partly Saxon, and partly Gothic, and has two aisles; the Gothic arches on one side are of wood, and the other side of stone; the windows partake of the character of both orders. In the church are many tablets, and armorial bearings. The manor was formerly the property of Sir Henry Herbert, knt., youngest brother of the eccentric Lord Herbert, of Cherbury. The ancient house still remains, and has the appearance of a fortress, part of which has been modernized. A copy of the manuscript account of the life of the famous Lord Cherbury was found here. Near this place is the curious phenomenon of a yew tree, growing in the body of an oak, and both growing in the earth. Number of houses, 15. Inhabitants, 81.

STOURBRIDGE, six miles from Kidderminster, is a large and populous town, and its manufactures are numerous, particularly of woollen cloth, leather, and plain as well as cut glass; nails are also made to an immense extent, and crucible clay is an article that employs many hands. Coal and iron stone were found here as early as the reign of Edward III. The Staffordshire canal passes near the town, and affords numerous facilities for commerce, which is greatly increasing in this place. The chapel, erected in 1742, is built of brick, and in a neat style of architecture; there are also several meeting-houses. The free-school was founded by Edward VI.

Market on Friday. Fairs 29th March, 8th September, and 8 January. Number of houses, 866. Inhabitants, 4,072.

STOURPORT, four miles from Kidderminster, on the banks of the Severn, is of recent date, and owes its existence to the formation of the Trent and Severn, or Staffordshire and Worcestershire canal. The houses, built on a moderate scale, are neat and commodious, and the wharfs, warehouses, masts and sails, give it the ap-

pearance of a sea-port town. There is a bridge over the Severn. The soil has been greatly enriched, by the increase of manure, and the value of the land has been gradually improving.

Market on Wednesday. Here is also a fair for hops. Houses, 280. Inhabitants, 3,130.

STRENSHAM, three miles from Pershore, in the vale of Evesham, has nothing particularly attractive. It was the ancient seat of the Russells, but the ruins of their mansion are scarcely perceptible. The church has some monuments of distinguished persons. This village is celebrated as the birth-place of Samuel Butler, the author of *Hudibras*.

THORNGROVE, seven miles from Worcester, was the residence of Lucien Buonaparte, when he sought a peaceful asylum in England. The house is pleasantly situated on an eminence, and commands extensive views of wood and water. In this place Lucien Buonaparte composed the greater part of his *Epic Poem*.

WESTWOOD HOUSE, two miles from Droitwich, the seat of Sir Herbert Packington, Bart., is a brick building, with extensive grounds. Here are numerous family paintings. During the civil wars this house afforded an asylum to Bishops Morley and Fell, Dr. Hammond, and other distinguished persons. Sir John Pakynton, Knight, was sheriff of the county in the reign of Elizabeth. Lady Pakynton wrote the *Whole Duty of Man*, in conjunction with Bishop Fell; she died in 1679.

WHITLEY COURT, ten miles from Worcester, the seat of Lord Foley, stands nearly at the foot of Woodbury Hill. The house is very spacious; the back-front is ornamented with a colonnade; the south front, which is the principal, exhibits a very chaste style of architecture. The paintings are numerous, and amongst them are some fine sporting subjects; the library is well fitted up. The parish church is so near the house as to communicate by a gallery; and the decorations surpass those of any similar building in the kingdom. The ceiling is by Verrio; and the windows contain painted glass by Price.

WORCESTER, 111 miles from London, an ancient

and celebrated city and a bishop's see, is built in a handsome style, and agreeably situated. The streets are well paved and lighted with gas. The Severn skirts the town, whose situation on a rising bank is highly conducive to health. Some remains are still left of its ancient fortifications. The cathedral is a noble specimen of the simple Gothic; its characteristic features are height, space, lightness of appearance, and general neatness; and, although executed at different periods, its simplicity is uniformly preserved. Its form is that of a double cross; the tower is ornamented at the corners by four lofty pinnacles and elegant battlements. The tower exhibits much curious workmanship and several ancient statues, and contains eight bells, each with a different inscription. The interior of this venerable edifice is elegant, and possesses numerous fine monuments of distinguished personages. The ornamented capitals of the pillars are exquisitely sculptured, and the modern painted windows add greatly to the general effect. The altar-piece is constructed of oak, and in the centre is a painting of the descent from the cross. Near the altar is the tomb of King John, the most ancient monument in England of the lineal ancestors of the present royal family. The chapel of Prince Arthur is nearly surrounded with curiously ornamented open work in the style of the Gothic screens. The vaulted roof of the cloisters is adorned with a variety of sculptures. In the southern cloister, in the key-stone of the arches, is a royal genealogy of Judah and Israel, beginning with Jesse, to whom succeeds David playing on the harp; these, together with several heads of bishops, demand particular attention. The refectory in the south cloister is now called the college hall, where the triennial meeting of the choirs of Worcester, Hereford, and Gloucester, are held; it is also made use of for the *king's school.* In the chapter-house is a curious roof, supported by a single pillar; this is not only the council-chamber but the library, in which is a copy of the famous Antwerp picture of the descent from the cross by Rubens. The collection of books is extensive; those on church history, topography, and divinity, are the most conspicuous. The audit-hall is used for entertainments at the annual audits. Edgar's Tower is

in excellent preservation: on its front are statues of King Edgar and his queens. On the west front is a fine statue of George II. The bishop's palace, which is near the cathedral, has undergone various alterations; the eastern side is of plain white stone, but the western still retains much of its ancient ornament. The last alteration took place in 1788, when it was fitted up for his Majesty and the late Queen, who resided there during their visit to Worcester. Latimer, the martyr, was Bishop of Worcester. There are but few remains of the ancient castle. The church of St. Michael is an antique specimen of ecclesiastical architecture, which has recently undergone a thorough repair, and the fittings up of the interior are modern. St. Peter's church was founded in 1280, and has also undergone modern alterations. St. Helen's church is considered the most ancient in the town; in the tower are eight bells, with inscriptions to commemorate the most splendid victories during the reign of Queen Anne. The interior exhibits many curious monuments; the body is divided into three aisles by two rows of pillars. St. Alban's church may attract the notice of the antiquary from its ancient style of architecture, but is not very remarkable. St. Andrew's church is considered of the eleventh century; the lofty spire is an object of great interest, and the beauty of its proportions are said to surpass that of Salisbury cathedral. The interior, like the other churches, has recently received embellishment. All Saints church was rebuilt in 1742 in the modern style, and its extent and accommodation adapt it for the use of a populous parish. A few of the old monuments have been preserved. St. Clement's church is built in the Saxon style, and part is of the ancient foundation. St. Martin's church was finished in 1772; the tower has a light appearance, and, like the interior, is ornamented with rustic corners and windows; it is crowned with balustrades and pinnacles of a light pleasing style of architecture. St. Swithin's church was rebuilt in 1736, and its interior is fitted up in the best style. This church was remarkable till lately for being the only one in Worcester possessing an organ and chimes. The guildhall is a handsome and modern brick building, erected in 1723; over the entrance is a statue

of Queen Anne : on the south side a statue of Charles I.; and on the north that of Charles II. The parapet is adorned with five statues, representing Justice, Peace, Plenty, Chastisement, and Labour. The new market-place is a handsome structure of considerable size, erected in 1804. The theatre is a commodious building. The charitable institutions are the general infirmary, Inglethorp's hospital, Nash's hospital, Wylatt's hospital, Trinity hospital, Berkeley's hospital, Moore's hospital, Sir Thomas White's gift, Shewring's hospital, St. Oswald's hospital, Goulding's hospital, the public schools, Bishop Lloyd's school, the subscription free-school, the lying-in charity, the house of industry, and numerous charity-schools. The public subscription library was established in 1790. The city gaol was formerly a priory. The new county prison is situated in the outskirts of the town. Of the castle few remains now exist. Worcester is governed by a mayor, six aldermen, a sheriff, two chamberlains, a town-clerk, two coroners, and 48 common-councilmen ; besides a sword-bearer, four serjeants at mace, 13 constables, four musicians, and four beadles, and is celebrated for its manufacture of gloves and porcelain. The porcelain works in Palace-row, belonging to Messrs. Flight, Barr, and Barr, were in 1788, honoured with the presence of their Majesties and the princesses : and since that period have been visited by the Prince Regent, other branches of the royal family, aud the Grand Duchess of Oldenburgh. The other porcelain manufactories are those of Messrs. Chamberlain, near the cathedral, and those of Messrs. Grainger, without St. Martin's-gate. This town likewise carries on a considerable trade in hops. There are numerous meeting-houses in this city. Worcester was the birth-place of the renowned Lord Somers, and is celebrated in history for the battle which took place in its vicinity in 1651, between Charles II. and Cromwell, when the former was defeated with great loss.

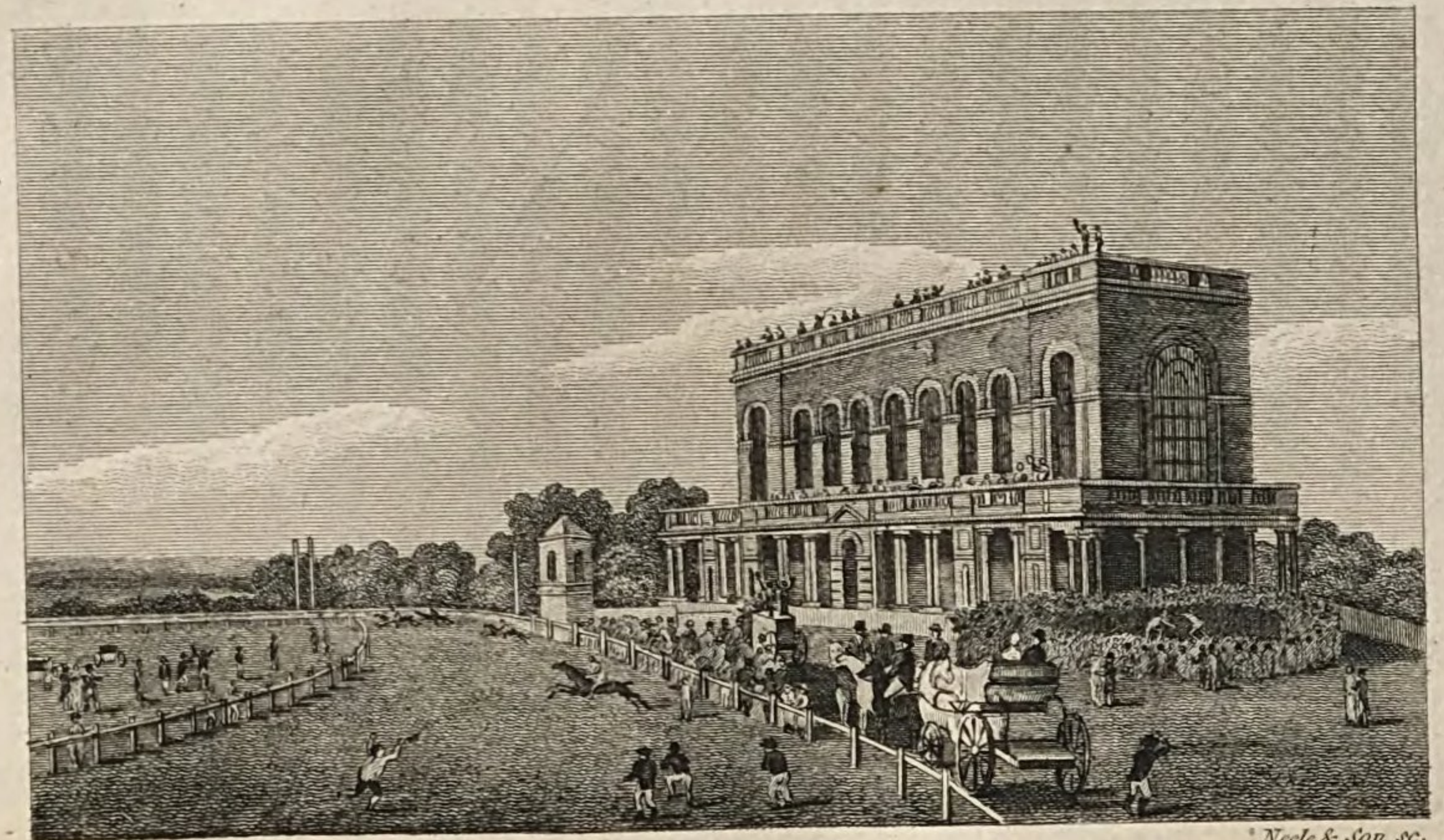
Market-days, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. Fairs, day before Palm Sunday, Saturday in Easter Week, August 15, September 19, and first Monday in December. Number of houses ,2,537 ; inhabitants, 13,814.

YORKSHIRE.

Length 115 miles. Breadth 90.—Circumference 460.—Square miles 6,013. Square acres 3,848,320. Hundreds 26. Market-towns 60. Parishes 630. Houses 194,562. Persons 1,005,700.—Diocese of York.—Northern Circuit.—Members to Parliament 30.—Militia Men 2,360.

BOUNDARIES, &c.—Yorkshire, the largest county in England, is bounded on the east by the German ocean, on the north by Durham, and Westmoreland, on the west by Lancashire, Westmoreland, and part of Cheshire, and on the south by Nottingham and Derby, and by the river Humber, which parts it from Lincolnshire. This county is larger than any two in England, and is divided into three divisions, called Ridings, the north, the east, and the west, and a separate district called Richmondshire. The air and soil of so large a county, must, of course, vary materially; and the East Riding, from its contiguity to the German ocean, is considered least healthy; notwithstanding this, the soil is considered the most fruitful. The West-Riding enjoys a sharp healthy air, but this soil is hilly, stony, and not particularly productive, although the valleys produce herbage capable of supporting the largest cattle. The air of the North Riding is pre-eminent for salubrity and coldness; good corn and rich pastures are produced in the valleys, and even on the sides of the hills, and lean cattle are fed even in the worst parts. Pitcoal, alum, jet, marble and copperas, are products of this extensive county.

SOIL.—In the *North Riding*, the level land near the Tees is generally a rich gravelly loam, and the higher ground is strong, and in some places cold and springy. Near the river Swale, to its junction with the Ure, a very fertile gravelly loam, some fine sandy soil, and very good clay. The tract called the Howardian Hills, is mostly a good strong loam upon a clay mixed with cobble stones. The extensive vale, formed by Ryedale, and the East and West Marshes, is liable to be flooded, and the soil is various, generally a hazel loam upon clay, or a deep warp



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THE GRAND STAND DONCASTER.

or silt upon gravel or clay; the detached eminences are mostly a rich strong clay. The Western Moorlands are generally calcareous and much more fertile than the Eastern Moorlands, which consist of grit-stone or freestone rock. The soil on the western part of the *West Riding* is not very fruitful, being hilly and stony; but much good meadow and pasture abound in the intermediate valleys. Near the Ouse, the soil is rich, and produces abundance of corn, particularly oats. Limestone is dug at Tadcaster; and a soft stone that hardens when exposed to the air, is produced at Sherborne. In this Riding are mines of bluish stone, that cleave like Cornish slate, and which, by calcination, percolation and boiling, is made into alum. The soil of the *East Riding* is in general dry, sandy, and barren; the sea coast and valleys are nevertheless fruitful, and the Wolds produce corn, and feed quantities of black cattle, horses and sheep; pit-coal, jet, and alum-stones are also produced in this Riding.

AGRICULTURE.—In the *North Riding*, the cultivation of the soil is rapidly advancing towards perfection. The general rental of farms is from 1 to 300*l.* per annum; few so low as 40*l.*, and some as high as 600*l.*; most of the farms are let from year to year, and leases are unusual; two thirds of the Vale of York are in grass, and the remaining third in tillage. The rotation of crops in an extensive district, like the Ridings of Yorkshire, are of course various, as the diversity of soil and climate. In the *East Riding*, agriculture is brought to as much perfection as in almost any part of England; the farms are generally large, from 200*l.* to above 1,000*l.* per annum; and small farms are rarely found. Very great improvements have taken place on the Wolds; the rabbit warrens are rapidly disappearing, and the number of sheep much increased. The improvement most wanted at this time in the Wolds, is in the roads, which, considering the abundant materials at hand, are in a very bad state. A very considerable portion of the *West Riding* is possessed by small proprietors, who are in no part of England more numerous. There are few farms that would be considered large, and scarcely any exceeding 400 acres; and to one of that extent will be found a dozen of less than

50 acres. On the arable lands of this district, a greater quantity of wheat is raised than of other grain; turnip husbandry is generally prevalent, but the cultivation of that valuable root is not sufficiently attended to. Flax is also cultivated, and draining is assiduously pursued. The horses in this district are small, but capable of great fatigue. Of horned cattle, the Holderness or short-horned breed, the Craven or long-horned, and a cross between the two, are grazed in different parts of this Riding. The sheep are the descendants of so many breeds, that all distinction is confounded.

MANUFACTURES.—The *West Riding* of Yorkshire is one of the greatest manufacturing districts in the world; local circumstances conduce to make it so. It is surrounded on all sides by the raw material, and coals are plentiful and cheap. These numerous and immense manufactures comprise broad and narrow cloths, of all qualities, shalloons, calimancoes, flannels, and every kind of woollen goods; and manufactories for these articles, are erected at Leeds, Wakefield, Bradford, Halifax, and Huddersfield, to an astonishing extent. Cutlery and plated goods in endless variety, are made at Sheffield.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers of this county are the Ouse, the Humber, the Ure, the Swale, the Aire, the Tees, the Nid, the Derwent, the Calder, the Don, and the Wharf.

The OUSE is formed by the junction of the Swale and Ure, about six miles from Boroughbridge, then passing to Nun Monkton, it receives the waters of the Nid, and flowing on to York, is joined by the small river Foss. Beyond York, it forms the boundary between the East and West Ridings, and about eight miles from that city is joined by the Wharf; it then proceeds in a south-east direction, by Selby, about five miles from which it turns towards the east, till it is augmented by the Derwent, when it again proceeds south-east, and near Booth Ferry receives the Calder and Aire. About three miles south-east of this junction, the Ouse is increased by the Don, and becomes as wide as the Thames at London; then proceeding to Swinefleet, it flows north-east to its confluence with the Trent, where it takes the name of Humber, and increases to a mile in width. At Bromfleet it receives the small

river Foulness, and becoming two or three miles wide, rolls in an eastern direction, by the town of Hull, where the river of that name falls into it. A few miles below Hull, it bends to the south-east, and gradually enlarging in its progress to six or seven miles in breadth, enters the German Ocean.

The URE rises on the borders of Yorkshire and West Moreland, and flowing through the valley of Wensleydale, is increased by numerous small streams: near Masham, it becomes the boundary between the North and West Ridings for several miles, but a short distance from Ripon it deviates into the West Riding, after which it again forms the boundary, and is joined by the Swale.

The SWALE rises in the west of the North Riding, and passing by Richmond and Catterick, enters the Vale of York, where it receives the Wiske, and continues its course till its junction with the Ure, at Myton.

The AIRE derives its source from the mountains of Craven, and gliding through the valley of Airedale, reaches Leeds, whence it flows to Castleford, near which it receives the Calder, and proceeds first in an easterly and afterwards in a north-easterly direction, till it joins the Ouse near Armin.

The TEES rises in the mountains of Westmoreland, and taking an easterly direction, forms the boundary between Durham, and the North Riding of Yorkshire.

The NID rises in the valley of Netherdale, and passing by Paisley Bridge, Ripley, and Knaresborough, falls into the Ouse at Nun Monkton.

The DERWENT has its source in the Eastern Moorlands in the North Riding, and flowing through the village of Hackness, and a pleasant valley to Ayton, reaches the fort of the Wolds: it afterwards receives the waters of the Rye, and passing by the town of Malton, separates the North and East Ridings, from its confluence with the river Hertford, till it nearly reaches Stamford Bridge, where it enters the East Riding, and joins the Ouse a short distance from Barneby.

The CALDER rises on the borders of Lancashire, and proceeding in an easterly direction, leaves Halifax on the north, and passes by Denbury to Wakefield, whence it

flows in a north-east course to Castleford, where it falls into the Aire.

The DON derives its source from the Western Moors, near Pennystone, and flowing by Sheffield and Rotherham, glides along a narrow valley, by Conisbrough, and Doncaster, beyond which it passes by Thorne to Rawcliffe Bridge, and enters the Ouse at the village of Gorle.

The WHARF rises at the Craven Hills, and passing by Otley, Wetherby, and Tadcaster, crosses the West Riding, and flows into the Ouse at Nun Appleton.

Remarkable Places.

AYSGARTH, seven miles from Leyburn, is a town on theUre, and is remarkable for the numerous cascades formed by that river in its vicinity. The grand fall is called the Force. The church is picturesquely situated on an eminence overlooking these cataracts. At *Heaning*, about two miles distant, is a beautiful fall of water, surrounded by scenery of the most romantic description.

BEVERLEY, nine miles from Hull, and 29 from York is a considerable market town, at the foot of the Wolds about a mile in length. The houses are elegant, and the principal street is terminated by an ancient gateway. The market-place is large and handsome. St. John's church, called the Minster, is a superb building, with two lofty towers. The sale of corn is very extensive, and the trade of the town is greatly augmented by a canal cut from the river Hull, near which Beverley is situated, to the Humber. This is a borough town, and sends two members to parliament. It is governed by a mayor, 12 aldermen, and 13 of the principal burgesses.

Market on Wednesday and Saturday. Houses, 1,520. Inhabitants, 6,731.

BOLTON CASTLE, 11 miles from Richmond, was founded in the reign of Richard II. Here Mary Queen of Scots was confined for about two years.

BOROUGHBRIDGE, a borough and market-town, seven miles from Knaresborough, is situated on the river Ure. The houses are neat, and the market-place is adorned with a fine Doric column. Its fair in June is famed for the sale of horses, Sheffield and Birmingham

hardware and toys. It sends two members to parliament. About half a mile from this town are three immense obelisks called THE ARROWS; they are generally supposed to have been erected by the Romans, and to have been brought from a quarry near Harrowgate.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, April 27, June 22, for a week, and October 23. Houses, 134. Inhabitants, 747.

BRADFORD, eight miles from Halifax, is a market-town, delightfully situated at the junction of three beautiful valleys, and is intersected by a navigable cut from the Leeds and Liverpool canal. The church is a large building, and here is a meeting-house; the houses are of stone, and are well-built. Bradford has large iron works, and foundries, and the manufacture of yarn, cotton, and woollen cloth is carried on to a very great extent. Iron ore is found at a very short distance from the town.

Market on Thursday. Fairs on 28, 29, and 30, June; 20, 21, and 22 December. Houses, 1,622. Inhabitants, 7,767.

BRIDLINGTON, a market-town, about 20 miles from Scarborough, derived its origin from a priory of Augustine monks founded in the reign of Henry I. This priory stood at the east end of the town, where its ruins may still be seen. Bridlington was formerly famed for its trade in corn, but this is now on the decline. About a mile south-east of the town is Bridlington, or Burlington Quay, much frequented as a bathing-place: the houses are well-built, and the harbour is formed by two fine piers, one of which is used as a promenade.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, Monday before Whitsuntide, and 21st October. Houses, 869. Inhabitants, 3,741.

CASTLE HOWARD, 14 miles from York, the seat of the Earl of Carlisle, is a magnificent building, erected from designs by Sir John Vanbrugh. The state apartments are remarkably grand and elegant, and are enriched with a very fine collection of paintings, statues, busts, and other works of art; the museum contains numerous antiquities. Amongst the many artists whose works adorn this mansion may be named, Rubens, Velas-

ques, Vandyck, Caracci, Titian, Tintoretto, Rembrandt, Julio Romano, Carlo Maratti, Corregio, Reynolds, Salvator Rosa, Holbein, Lely, Wouvermans and Volterra. The pleasure-grounds are laid out in a style which accords with the splendour of the mansion, and the park is extensive and beautiful. Near the entrance of the park is an elegant inn for the accommodation of strangers, and in the centre of four avenues of lofty trees is an obelisk 100 feet in height, erected to commemorate the valour of the Duke of Marlborough. Near the northern grand entrance is an elegant monument in honour of Nelson, and half a mile east of the house stands an Ionic temple, adorned with busts of Vespasian, Trajan, Faustina and Sabina. About a quarter of a mile farther is the Mausoleum, a handsome circular building, embellished with a colonnade of Doric pillars.

CAVE CASTLE, 13 miles from Hull, is a noble mansion-house, standing in an extensive park. It contains a fine collection of pictures, amongst which is a portrait of the celebrated General Washington, whose great grandfather possessed this estate, whence he emigrated in 1657.

DONCASTER, 37 miles from York, is a fine market-town, on the south bank of the Don, and on the great north road. The houses are commodious, and well-built. The parish church of St. George stands on the site of an ancient castle, but the period of its erection is unknown; it has a library, a good organ, and eight bells. The mansion-house in the centre of the town is a handsome edifice. The town-hall contains the principal offices for the transaction of the business of the corporation; the lower part of the building is occupied by the free grammar school. There are several meeting-houses, and an hospital, a public dispensary, and a workhouse, besides other benevolent institutions. The corporation consists of a mayor, recorder, town-clerk, 12 aldermen, and 24 common-councilmen. Doncaster races take place in September during which the theatre is opened every night, and a brilliant ball is given at the mansion-house. The race-ground is enclosed by a handsome railing, and the grand stand built by the corporation for the accommodation of company is extremely elegant and commodious.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, 5 April, and 5 August. Houses, 1,500. Inhabitants, 6,935.

DRIFFIELD, 13 miles from Beverley, is a market-town, in a fertile plain, at the southern foot of the Wolds. It consists of one broad street, and is the place where Alfred, the King of Northumbria, died in 705.

DUNCOMBE PARK is situated about half a mile from Helmsley. The mansion is a splendid edifice, erected by Wakefield, in 1718, from a design by Sir John Vanbrugh. The hall is adorned with busts of the Greek and Latin poets, medallions of the Cæsars, statues, &c., and the saloon is likewise fitted up with classical elegance. The rooms are embellished with a fine collection of paintings, many of which are executed by the following masters, Caracci, Hogarth, Rembrandt, Palma, Titian, Guido, Peter of Cortona, Leonardo da Vinci, Carlo Dolci, Albano, Corregio, Poussin, Rubens, Salvator Rosa, Carlo Maratti and Wouvermans. The grounds adjoining the house are laid out with great taste, and are ornamented with a terrace, an Ionic temple, and a cascade.

FARNLEY HALL, three miles from Otley, is a superb and elegant mansion, seated on an eminence overlooking the Vale of the Wharf. The rooms are fitted up with great taste, and are ornamented with valuable paintings, basso relievos, busts, painted windows, &c.

FILEY is a small fishing village, about 11 miles from Scarborough; and is much frequented as a bathing-place by persons who seek retirement. It is situated on a spacious bay, and the sands are smooth, firm, and extensive. The village itself is not well-built, but excellent lodging-houses have been erected for the accommodation of visiters. At the north-east extremity of the bay is Filey Bridge, a ridge of rocks projecting about half a mile into the sea.

FLAMBOROUGH HEAD, three miles from Bridlington, is a truly magnificent object, the cliffs being of stupendous height, and astonishing grandeur. They consist of limestone rock, and at their base are several caverns or excavations, the principal of which are the Kirk Hole, Robin Lyth's Hole and Dove Cote, so called from being a breeding-place for pigeons. In the summer, these tremendous cliffs are covered with aquatic fowls as

well as with rooks, daws, and rock-pigeons, which build their nests in the recesses of the rocks, and when disturbed, stun the ear with their discordant notes. At a short distance is the Light-house, and about a mile and a half to the west is Flamborough, a large fishing village, formerly a town of considerable importance. Near it are the ruins of a Danish tower.

FOUNTAINS ABBEY, near Studley Royal, was founded in 1132, for Cistercian monks, and although now in ruins, is the most perfect vestige of a monastic building in England. The roof is gone to decay, but the tower and walls are still standing; the church is a fine building, in good preservation.

FOUNTAIN HALL, a short distance from the Abbey, was built out of its ruins. In the chapel attached to it is a curious chimney-piece representing the Judgment of Solomon.

FULNECK, about five miles from Bradford, is a settlement of Moravian Brethren. It has a chapel, which is a neat and elegant structure, a widows' house, and a school. In the village, is a commodious inn for the accommodation of travellers. The situation of Fulneck is dry and healthy, and the single women here are famous for their skill in working muslin.

GUISBOROUGH, 12 miles from Stokesley, is delightfully situated in a fertile vale, in the most charming part of Cleveland. It consists of one broad street, and has a very neat appearance. Near the eastern extremity of the town are the ruins of a priory, which was founded in 1129, for Augustine Canons. The first alum-works in England were erected at Guisborough, by Sir T. Chaloner, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. About four miles, north-west of this place, is a lofty hill commanding a very extensive prospect, and surmounted by a Roman encampment.

HALIFAX, 195½ miles from London, is a large manufacturing town, situated on a gentle eminence surrounded by hills. The town is about three-quarters of a mile in length, and, though narrow and irregular, the houses are well built. The church is a large Gothic structure, at the east end of the town, with its choir facing the ancient entrance from Wakefield. Halifax has a handsome mar-

ket-house, called the new piece hall, which forms a mart for the sale of stuffs, shalloons, serges, tammies, calamancoes, kerseys, woollen-cloths, &c. This town has derived its present importance from the manufacture of cloth, which appears to have commenced here about the middle of the sixteenth century; the abundance of coal and water with which it is supplied renders it a very advantageous place for manufactories, and has greatly contributed to its prosperity. The Calder navigation runs within two miles of this town, and supplies it with a cheap mode of carriage. A singular custom, called Gibbet Law, was long prevalent in the parish of Halifax, by which the inhabitants were authorized to decapitate any person found guilty of theft, by means of a machine resembling a guillotine.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, June 24, and October 21. Houses, 2,262; inhabitants, 9,159.

HARDROW FORCE, five miles from Askrigg, is a stupendous cascade, where the water falls in one mass a height of 90 feet. The rock from which it descends, and the overhanging shrubs, give it a very picturesque appearance.

HAREWOOD HOUSE, seven miles from Leeds, is a noble mansion of the Corinthian order. The apartments are numerous, and are elegantly furnished, particularly the gallery and great drawing-room, which are remarkably splendid. The gardens and grounds were laid out by Browne with his usual taste. Harewood church, near the house, is a venerable structure, containing amongst other tombs that of Judge Gascoigne.—HAREWOOD CASTLE is now in a very dilapidated state; the ruins are situated on the brow of a high hill overlooking the river Wharf.

HARROWGATE, an extensive village about three miles from Knaresborough, is celebrated for its springs, and is divided into High and Low Harrowgate. The situation of High Harrowgate, in which are the two chalybeate springs, is extremely delightful, and, being on a very elevated plain, commands an extensive view of the surrounding country. The Old Spa, discovered in 1571, is situated in a dome, built in 1786 by Lord Loughborough, who likewise laid out the plantation of trees, in which is

a walk about two miles in length and eight feet in breadth. The other chalybeate spring, called the Tewit Well, is about half a mile west of the Old Spa. In Low Harrowgate are the two sulphur springs, each of which is covered by a stone building; and at the Crescent Inn is a spring, partly chalybeate and partly sulphureous, which was discovered in 1783. A chapel was erected at Harrowgate in 1749, and the town has been gradually increasing in houses and opulence for many years. It has several excellent inns and numerous lodging-houses for the accommodation of visiters.

HEDON, or HEADON, eight miles from Hull, is an ancient borough and market-town, about a mile and a-half from the Humber. The present town is very small, and carries on but little maritime trade, although its haven is connected with the Humber by a cut. It sends two members to parliament.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, March 13, September 14, November 17, and December 6, and every fortnight from Shrove Monday to Midsummer. Houses, 166; inhabitants, 780.

HELMSLEY, six miles from Kirby Moor Side, is a small market town, on a declivity near the banks of the Rye. Most of the houses are built with stone, and the inhabitants are employed in agriculture and the manufacture of linen. Its castle, only the ruins of which now remain, was besieged and taken by Fairfax in the civil war.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, May 19, July 16, October 2, and November 6. Houses, 263; inhabitants, 1,415.

HULL, or KINGSTON UPON HULL, 239 miles from London, is a large and commercial town on the banks of the river Hull, from which it derives its name. The streets are most of them spacious, and the houses well built. The public buildings, with the exception of the church of the Holy Trinity, are not remarkable for their magnificence. This church is a fine Gothic building, containing a library and numerous elegant monuments. St. Mary's church, erected in 1333, but repaired in 1696, is a handsome edifice with a square steeple; it consists of three aisles divided by Gothic columns. St. John's church

was erected in 1791 ; it is a neat brick building, and the interior is fitted up with taste and elegance. Besides these places of worship there are several meeting-houses. Hull has a grammar-school, three other free-schools, and a Lancasterian school; besides several others. Amongst its charitable institutions may be mentioned the Trinity House, for the reception of decayed seamen and their wives or widows; this house contains several curiosities worthy of notice, particularly two Greenland boats kept in the hall. The Charter-house Hospital and Charity Hall are spacious and commodious edifices for the poor; besides which there are Greg's, Lister's, Watson's, Ratcliffe's, Weaver's, Gee's, Crowle's, and Harrison's Hospitals. The general infirmary, situated a short distance from the town, is a handsome edifice of brick, ornamented with stone. In the High Street is the custom-house, formerly the exchange. The market-place is a spacious street, with handsome shops and houses on each side ; near its southern extremity is an equestrian statue of William III. The north bridge over the river Hull consists of two handsome free-stone arches, between which is a draw-bridge large enough to admit vessels of any size used in this port. From this bridge a gravel-walk extends along the east bank of the river to the Humber ; and at its extremity is the entrance to the citadel, which is surrounded by a ditch and strongly fortified. The docks form a distinguishing feature of Hull ; that on the north side of the town was commenced in 1775, and completed in about four years, together with the adjacent wharf or quay : this dock occupies a space of about ten acres, and the quay about three and a quarter. The Humber dock and quay on the west side of the town, occupy between 10 and 11 acres, and are capable of receiving ships of 50 guns. Besides these are several dry docks for repairing vessels. The principal trade of Hull consists in its whale fishery, in the prosecution of which it employs more vessels than any other place in England ; it has likewise an extensive coasting trade in corn, oil, coals, and wool; besides a considerable foreign traffic to America, the Baltic, and other parts of Europe. The municipal government is vested in a mayor, recorder, and aldermen, with a she-

riff, chamberlain, town-clerk, coroner, and other officers.—Markets on Tuesday and Saturday. Marts, July 10, December 10, and five days after each. Fair, October 10. Houses, 4,925 ; inhabitants, 26,792.

INGLEBOROUGH, a mountain near Ingleton, is about a mile in perpendicular height above the level of the sea. Its summit, which is level and horizontal, commands extensive and romantic prospects, and its sides are covered with sheep-walks.

INGLETON, a village, about ten miles from Settle, is remarkable for the numerous picturesque objects in its vicinity; amongst which may be mentioned *Thornton Scar*, a tremendous cliff, about 300 feet in height; *Thornton Force*, a cascade, falling about 30 yards; *Yordas Cave*, an arched opening, the roof of which is adorned with curious petrifactions; and *Weathercote Cave*, displaying scenery of the most romantic description.

KEIGHLEY, six miles from Skipton, is a considerable market-town on the river Aire, over which it has a stone bridge. The houses consist chiefly of stone, but are irregularly built. The church contains two ancient grave-stones, one of which is supposed to have been laid down in the time of Canute the Great. The cotton, linen, and worsted manufactures are carried on here to great extent, and large quantities of the latter article are sent in an unfinished state to Halifax and Bradford.

Market on Wednesday. Fairs, May 8 and November 8. Houses, 1,419; inhabitants, 6,864.

KIRBY MOORSIDE, 28 miles from York, is a market town, where George Villiers, duke of Buckingham, died on the 17th of April, 1687, in great want and misery. The house where he expired is in the market-place, but the spot in the church-yard where his body was deposited is not known.

Market on Wednesday. Houses, 321; inhabitants, 1,673.

KIRKLEATHAM HALL, five miles from Guisborough, the seat of Sir Charles Turner. The house is built in the Gothic style, and the apartments are spacious and elegant. The gardens are laid out with great taste, and in the pleasure-grounds is a temple decorated with paintings, gilding, &c. A short distance from the mansion

is Turner's Hospital, a handsome building, founded and endowed in 1676 by Sir W. Turner. A small chapel, fitted up in a very neat style, forms part of the building; over the altar is a painted glass window of exquisite workmanship, representing the Adoration of the Magi. The hospital likewise contains a library, in which is preserved a likeness in wax of Sir W. Turner. Not far from the hospital is the parish church, an elegant stone building, in which is the monument of Sir W. Turner.

KIRKSTALL ABBEY. The ruins of this building, founded for Cistercian monks in the twelfth century, are situated on the north bank of the Aire, about three miles from Leeds, and are remarkable for their picturesque and romantic appearance.

KNARESBOROUGH, 18 miles west of York, is a place of considerable size, situated on the north-east bank of the Nid. The town is well built and handsome, and many of its inhabitants are employed in the manufacture of cotton and linen. Its market for corn is one of the largest in the county. On a craggy rock stand the remains of its once formidable castle, which was erected in the reign of William the Conqueror, and formed a place of confinement for Richard II., after he was dethroned by Henry IV. In 1648, the castle was dismantled after it had been taken by Lord Fairfax, and it has ever since been in a state of decay. Opposite these ruins, in the walk along the bank of the Nid, is the celebrated dropping or petrifying well; this spring rises at the foot of a limestone rock, and, after flowing over a space of about 12 yards, which it has transformed into rock, it enters the well, whence it flows into the river Nid, where its petrifying qualities have formed another rock of about 30 feet in height. Near the stone bridge is a curious cell, hollowed out of the solid rock, called St. Robert's Chapel; it is adorned with various Gothic ornaments and several heads, one of which is intended to represent St. John the Baptist. Above this chapel is a hermitage, formed by petrifactions and other substances; and an ornamental building, called Fort Montague, which was cut out of the rock by a weaver and his son. Half a mile lower down the river are the remains of a priory, founded by

Richard Plantagenet; and about a mile to the east is an ancient hermitage in the rock, called Robert's Cave.

Market on Wednesday. Fairs, Wednesday after January 4, ditto after March 12, ditto after August 12, Monday after August 10 and December 13. Houses, 905; inhabitants, 4,234.

LEEDS, 191 miles from London, one of the most commercial and opulent towns in Yorkshire, situated on the river Aire, is well built, and nearly all the houses are of brick. The town is about a mile and a half in length, and half a mile in breadth. There are five churches, St. Peter's, St. John's, St. James's, Trinity Church, and St. Paul's. St. Peter's, which is the parish church, is a plain but ancient pile of building, in the form of a cross; the communion table is adorned with a fine painting of the Last Supper, and the church contains several antique monuments. St. John's Church was erected in 1634, and is indebted for its foundation to Joseph Harrison, Esq., who is buried within its walls. St. James' Church is an octagon building of Stone. Trinity Church, erected in 1271, is a handsome stone edifice with a tower and spire. St. Paul's Church is a fine stone building, opened in 1794. Besides these places of worship, there are ten meeting-houses and a Roman Catholic chapel. Amongst the public buildings demanding attention is the mixed cloth hall, erected in 1758, for the sale of coloured cloth, and divided into six covered streets, each of which contains two rows of stands. The white cloth hall, built in 1775, is a quadrangular edifice, similar to the preceding, and is divided into five covered streets, each having a double row of stands. These two halls are occupied by persons who have served a regular apprenticeship. Another and smaller hall has been erected in Albion Street, for those clothiers who have not served, and who cannot in consequence be admitted into the other establishments. The corn-market is held in Cross Parish. Leeds is supplied with water by means of the works near the bridge over the Aire. The charitable institutions of this town are the general infirmary, a large brick building, opened in 1771; the house of recovery, Harrison and Akin's alms-houses, Potter's alms-houses, a free

grammar-school, a charity-school, and a work-house. The chief manufacture of Leeds is cloth of every description, besides which it has extensive manufactories of toilenets, kerseymeres, swandowns,sacking, linen, thread, canvass, and carpets. There are several cotton-mills, and in the vicinity are some foundries, and a manufactory of fine earthenware. On the banks of the Aire and adjacent streams are mills for fulling cloth, turning machinery for carding and spinning wool, and mills for grinding rape-seed and dyers'-wood. Leeds is likewise distinguished for its commerce, being the principal mart for the woollen manufactures of the West Riding. It is advantageously situated for trade, having a communication with the eastern as well as western sea, by means of the river Aire and Leeds and Liverpool canal, which commences about a quarter of a mile above the bridge. Another canal is cut from the lower part of the Aire to Selby. The corporation consists of a mayor, 12 aldermen, and 24 common-councilmen.

Markets on Tuesday and Saturday. Fairs, July 10, and November 8. Houses, 12,860; inhabitants 62,534.

MALTON, 18 miles from York, is a borough and market town, situated on an eminence overlooking the Derwent, over which there is a handsome stone bridge. The houses are mostly built of stone. There are two churches, St. Michael's, the spire of which has a singular appearance, and St. Leonard's. Near the bridge are the ruins of a castle. Malton is a borough by prescription, and sends two members to parliament, who are chosen by the holders of about one hundred burgage tenures. It carries on a great trade in corn by means of the river Derwent.

Markets on Tuesday and Saturday. Fairs, Saturday before Palm Sunday, Saturday before Whitsunday, and Oct. 10 and 11. Houses, 736; inhabitants, 3,713.

MARTON, seven miles from Stokesley, is a small village, celebrated for having given birth to that distinguished navigator, Captain Cook.

NEWBY HALL, four miles from Ripon, the seat of Lord Grantham, is a handsome brick mansion, the design for which was given by Sir Christopher Wren. The apartments are elegantly furnished, and adorned with numerous

paintings and statues. The pleasure-grounds are extensive, and are laid out with considerable taste.

NORTHALLERTON, 225 miles from London, is a borough and market town, seated on the side of an eminence. The market-place is large, and is surrounded by respectable houses. The town returns two members to parliament. Near this place was fought the famous battle of the standard in 1138, when the Scotch king David was defeated by the barons who had been assembled by the Archbishop of York.

Market on Wednesday. Fairs, January 2, and Bartholomew's Day. Houses, 510; inhabitants, 2,234.

PENNIGANT, seven miles from Settle, is a steep mountain, about 1,700 yards above the level of the sea. Near its base are two large openings, called Hulpit and Huntpit Holes, through each of which flows a subterranean brook.

PONTEFRACT, or POMFRET, 16½ miles from Sheffield, is delightfully situated on the summit of an eminence, and is surrounded by numerous seats of noblemen and gentlemen; the streets are neat and spacious, and the houses well built. The absence of manufacture renders the air pure and salubrious. The parish church of St. Giles, though inelegant in exterior appearance, is fitted up very neatly, and is adorned with a fine painting of the Crucifixion. The church of All Saints, formerly the parish church, is now in ruins. There are several meeting-houses, and a Roman Catholic chapel. This town is celebrated for its gardens and nurseries, and for the cultivation of liquorice, which is made into cakes, named after this town. No remains of the castle now exist; the spot on which it stood being converted into garden ground. In this castle Richard II. was murdered.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, Saturday before Palm Sunday, and Saturday after St. Andrew's Day. Houses, 879; inhabitants, 3,605.

RIBSTONE HALL, four miles from Knaresborough, is an elegant house, containing some very fine paintings. The delicious apple, called Ribstone Pippin, was first cultivated in this manor.

RICHMOND, 25 miles from Ripon, is a borough and market-town, delightfully situated, on the banks of the

Swale. The houses are mostly built of stone. The market-place is spacious and handsome. The chief trade of the town is in corn. Richmond is famous for its castle, which as well as the town itself, was built by Earl Alan, Count of Bretagne, in the 11th century. The ruins consist of the keep, one of the towers, and some other parts; in the keep is a well of good water. This town sends two members to parliament. It has 13 free companies of tradesmen, who annually choose the mayor on Hilary day. The corporation consists of a mayor, recorder, 12 aldermen, and 24 common-councilmen. The right of election is in the burgage holders, having right of pasturage in a common field called White-cliffe-pasture; their number is about 270. This place is also noted for its annual horse-races.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, Saturday before Palm-Sunday, first Saturday in July, and September 14th. Houses, 512. Inhabitants, 3,056.

RIEVAL, or RIEVAULX ABBEY, about three miles and a half from Helmsley. From the ruins still existing, this abbey appears to have been of great extent. It was founded about the year 1131, for monks of the Cistercian order, but was demolished in the reign of Henry VIII., when it passed to the Duncombe family, who still possess it. An arched gateway of Gothic architecture, is much admired here. At a short distance from the abbey are the gardener's apartments, whence a steep path ascends to a delightful terrace, commanding a view of the ruins and the adjacent country. At the extremity of the terrace is a pavilion, containing some fine paintings.

RIPLEY, is a small market town, five miles from Knaresborough. The church contains several monuments, and in the church-yard is the pedestal of an ancient cross, with eight niches. This town has a free school, and an ancient castle, which is now a spacious residence.

Market on Friday. Fair, 25th August. Houses, 171. Inhabitants, 880.

RIPON, six miles from Boroughbridge, is a considerable borough and market-town, situated between the rivers Ure and Skell. Over the first is a stone bridge of 17 arches, besides five others, within a mile of the town, which has a communication with the Ure by a canal. The streets, with the exception of that from the market-place

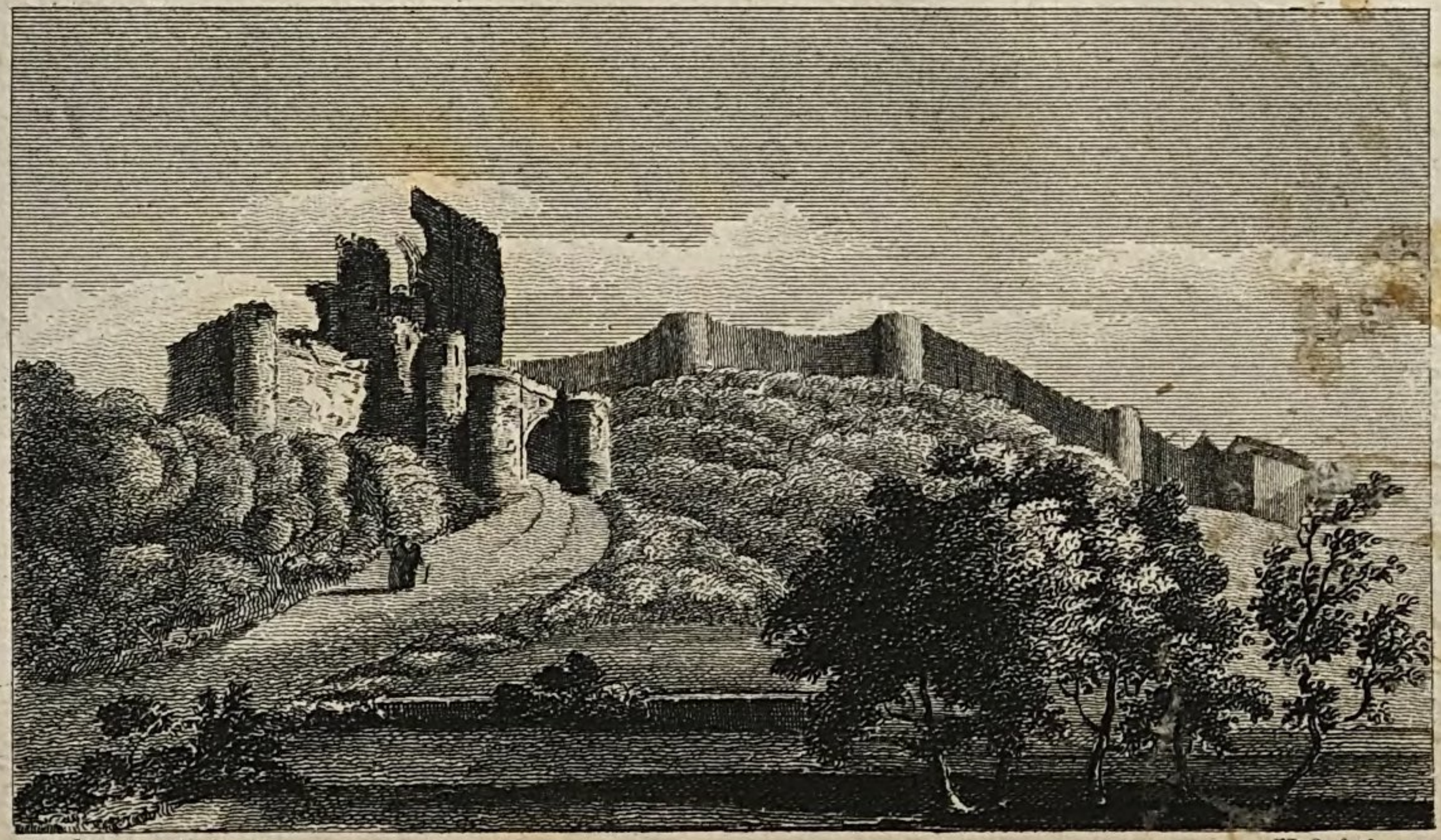
to the church, are irregularly built, but the market-place is a spacious square of well-built houses, in the centre of which is a fine obelisk. The town-hall is an elegant building, erected in 1801; and the theatre, opened in 1792, is a handsome edifice. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, and St. Wilfrid, is a fine Gothic structure, built in the form of a cross; the altar-piece is a fine perspective painting, representing a colonnade. The east window is of painted glass, and contains the arms of the Archbishop of York, and of several bishops and noblemen. The church is adorned with numerous sepulchral monuments. Ripon has a free grammar school, a public dispensary, several Sunday schools, a school of industry, and four hospitals. It sends two members to parliament. This town was formerly celebrated for its manufacture of spurs, as well as for that of woollens. Near the church, and at the east end of the town is a tumulus, called Alice Hill, or Ellshaw, which is said to have been raised by the Danes.

Market on Thursday. Fairs, Thursday after 24th January, Thursday after 21st March, 12th May, first Thursday in June, Holy Thursday, first Thursday after 22d August, and November 22d. Houses, 1,881. Inhabitants, 10,131.

ROBIN HOOD'S BAY, a village about six miles from Whitby, receives its name from the notorious Robin Hood, in the reign of Richard I., who made it his chief place of resort when plundering on the coast. The village occupies a small space, but is closely built and populous; the bay is nearly a mile in breadth, but very shallow. Fishing is the chief employment of the inhabitants, who have generally four or five boats employed in the Yarmouth herring fishery. At a short distance are alum works of great extent.

ROSEBURY TOPPING, near Gainsborough, is a high peaked mountain, near the village of Newton, which serves as a land-mark for sailors, and commands a charming view of the Vale of Cleveland, and part of Durham. On the side of the hill, above the village of Newton, is a large rock, abounding with petrified shells.

ROTHERHAM, six miles from Sheffield, is situated at the confluence of the Rother and the Don. The streets are irregular and narrow, and the houses are built of stone.



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SCARBOROUGH CASTLE.

The parish church is a Gothic structure, built in the time of Edward IV., and here are two or three meeting-houses. A considerable trade in coals and other articles is carried on here by means of the Don. Rotherham has an academy for the education of dissenting ministers; but it is principally celebrated for the iron works belonging to Messrs. Walker, which were founded in 1746. At these works cannon of all sizes are made, as well as almost every other article of cast iron, tin-plates, and steel. The iron work for Sunderland bridge, was also cast at this place.

Market on Monday. Fairs, Whitsunday, and 1st December. Houses, 731. Inhabitants, 2,950.

SCARBOROUGH, 22 miles from Malton, is situated on a rocky cliff in the recess of a bay; the harbour is the only port between the Humber and Tinemouth haven, capable of affording shelter to large vessels during eastern gales. The new pier is remarkable for its size and solidity; it is formed with rocks brought from a quarry called White Mab, about two miles distant. The town is well-built, the houses having a handsome appearance, and the principal streets in the upper town are broad, and well paved. The buildings on the cliff are delightfully situated, with a beautiful terrace in front, 100 feet above the level of the sands. The lodging-houses in Scarborough are elegant and commodious, and pleasant amusement may be found in the public walks for a trifling subscription. There is a theatre, and an assembly-room, opened alternately, during the summer months. The house for drinking the Spa, from which Scarborough has derived such celebrity, stands on the sea-shore, at the foot of the cliff, a short distance south of the town. The Spas consist of two wells, the north, or chalybeate, and the south, or saline well. Scarborough is charmingly situated for bathing, the bay being open to the sea, and the water pure and transparent. Morning is the usual time for bathing, as well as for drinking the waters. The only church in Scarborough is that of St. Mary, which formerly belonged to the Cistercian monastery here; but there are several meeting-houses. The ruins of the castle form the principal ornament of Scarborough; they are situated at the eastern extremity of the town, on a lofty promontory, rising upwards of 300 feet above the level of the sea, and presenting an almost

inaccessible range of rock. At the top of the hill is a level space of about 19 acres. Near the east side of the castle-yard is a reservoir called the Lady's Well, which is supplied with water by the rain falling on the Castle Hill, and conveyed into it by subterranean drains, which were seen in 1746, by the engineer appointed to inspect the military works. A gateway on the summit of an isthmus, on the west side of the town, forms the entrance to the castle; a little beyond is the drawbridge, beneath which is a very deep fosse; the keep is a lofty square tower, 97 feet in height, but was originally much higher; its walls are 12 feet thick, and cased with stone. Scarborough is a borough, and sends two members to parliament. This corporation consists of two bailiffs, two coroners, four chamberlains, and a common-council of 36 members. Scarborough carries on but little trade, notwithstanding the advantages of its harbour; and has no manufactures except of cordage and sail-cloth. Ship-building forms a considerable branch of its business, but the fisheries are in a declining state.

Market on Thursday and Saturday. Fair on Holy Thursday. Houses, 1,425. Inhabitants, 7,067.

SELBY, 15 miles south of York, is a pleasant market-town, near the banks of the Ouse, by means of which, and a navigable canal to Leeds, it carries on an extensive trade. It was formerly celebrated for its abbey, founded by William the Conqueror; from the remains situated on the west side of the Ouse, this abbey appears to have been a fine Gothic building; some vestiges of the painted glass with which its windows were adorned, may still be seen.

Market on Monday. Fairs, 22d June, 10th October, and Easter Tuesday. Houses, 742. Inhabitants, 3,363.

SETTLE, 60 miles from York, is a pleasant, but small market town, almost entirely built of stone, situated on the river Ribble. At its fairs great quantities of cattle are sold; and the cotton mills in this town and its neighbourhood afford employment to a considerable number of the inhabitants. Settle has no church, being situated in the parish of GIGGLESWICK, a village at about a mile's distance, where there is a remarkable spring, which ebbs and flows at different periods: the water issuing from it is

cold and transparent. A variety of curious plants are found on the rocky scars, in the vicinity of Settle.

Market on Thursday. Fairs, Thursday before Good Friday, 26th April, Whit Tuesday, August 19th, 20th, and 21st, and 1st Tuesday after 27th October. Houses, 274. Inhabitants, 1,153.

SHEFFIELD, 160 miles from London, is situated on rising ground, at the confluence of the Sheaf and Don, over each of which there is a bridge. The streets are handsome and regular, and the houses well built. The town is about a mile in length, and three quarters of a mile in breadth. There are four churches, seven meeting-houses, and a Roman Catholic chapel. Trinity church, formerly St. Peters, is a Gothic structure, in the centre of the town, built in the reign of Henry I.; in this church was interred, in 1700, William Walker, who is supposed to have been the executioner of Charles I. St. Paul's church is a handsome structure, in the Grecian style, erected in 1771. The town hall, built in 1700, is situated at the corner of Trinity church-yard, and near it is Cutlers' hall, erected in 1726. The theatre, and assembly-room are included in one building, in Norfolk-street. At the north-east part of the town is a noble pile of building, forming the barracks, and about half a mile west of the town stands the general infirmary, erected about the close of the 18th century. The Duke of Norfolk's hospital, near the bridge, was founded in 1670, but the present chapel was not erected till 1770. The other charitable institutions are, Hollis' hospital and school, a free-grammar school, two charity schools, and several Sunday schools. Sheffield is celebrated for its manufactories of cutlery and plated goods; those for cutlery are situated in its vicinity, together with numerous foundries for brass, iron, and white metal. Those for plated goods are entirely confined to the town itself. The neighbourhood abounds with coal-mines, and the banks of the Don and Sheaf are occupied with various works for forging, slitting, and preparing iron and steel.

Market on Tuesday and Saturday. Fairs, Tuesday after Whitsun week, and 28th November. Houses, 7,927. Inhabitants, 35,840.

SHERIFF HUTTON, a village 10 miles from York,

is distinguished for the ruins of its castle, consisting of seven towers. This castle was built in the reign of king Stephen, and in the time of Richard III. became the prison of the young Earl of Warwick, the last male heir of the house of York. Elizabeth, the daughter of Edward IV., was likewise confined here.

SKIPTON, a market town, 14 miles from Otley, consists principally of one large street, used as the market-place. All the houses are built of stone. It is famous for the sale of corn, cattle, and sheep, and its trade is greatly benefited by the Leeds and Liverpool canal which passes close to it. The church is a spacious edifice, at the upper end of the market-place, and a short distance from it is the ancient castle, supposed to have been built soon after the Conquest. It was for a long time the residence of the Clifford family, and gave birth to the famous lady Anne Clifford.

SPURN HEAD, is a famous promontory, situated at the entrance of the Humber. A light-house standing on it is the only remarkable object.

STUDLEY ROYAL, about three miles from Ripon, is an elegant house, containing a fine collection of pictures. The plantations are tastefully laid out, and the pleasure grounds, about three quarters of a mile from the house, are considered some of the finest in England. Near the entrance is the Cold Bath, to which a dressing-room is attached, and a short distance from it is the figure of a dying gladiator; a fine rustic bridge; a statue of Hercules destroying Antæus; and a grotto. The temple of Piety has a fine portico, and the interior contains busts of Vespasian, Titus, and Nero, and a fine bas relief. The Rotunda, or Temple of Fame, situated in a hanging wood, and the Octagon Tower, on an eminence, command extensive and pleasing views of the grounds. The banquetting house is a superb structure, on the front of which are figures of Hatred, Malice, and Envy; the interior is tastefully decorated with busts and pictures.

TADCASTER, nine miles from York, is a neat, well built, and pleasant town, situated on the river Wharf, over which it has one of the finest bridges in the county. On the south side of the river, formerly stood a castle, with the ruins of which this bridge was built. In the vi-

cinity of this place was fought the bloody battle of Towton, on the 29th of March, 1461, when Edward IV. defeated the troops of Henry VI., under the command of the Duke of Somerset.

THIRSK, 23 miles from York, is a pleasant and well built market-town, on the banks of a small brook, called Codbeck, which separates the old from the new town. The church is a handsome Gothic building, containing several monuments, and three stone seats, used by the clergy before the reformation. There are several meeting-houses, and a school of industry. Old Thirsk, which is a borough by prescription, returns two members to parliament; the right of election is vested in the burgage tenements. In Old Thirsk is an elm-tree of great antiquity, giving name to the square in which it is situated, called Hawm or Elm Green.

Market on Monday. Fairs, once a fortnight, Shrove-Tuesday, Tuesday after Lady-day, Tuesday after St. James's, St. Andrew's, and St. Luke's. Houses, 539. Inhabitants, 2,155.

WAKEFIELD, nine miles from Leeds, is delightfully situated on a hill overlooking the Calder, and is considered one of the handsomest towns in the West Riding. The streets are regular, and the houses well built. The market-cross is an elegant Doric colonnade, supporting a dome, and an immense quantity of wool is sold here on market-days. The parish church is a fine Gothic structure, with the highest spire in Yorkshire; and about half a mile north of it is the new church, an elegant structure, erected towards the end of the 18th century. This town contains a free grammar-school, and a house of correction. At the south-east entrance of the town is a stone bridge over the Calder, erected in the reign of Edward III., and on this bridge is an ancient Gothic chapel, built by Edward IV., in memory of his father Richard Duke of York and his companions, who fell at the battle of Wakefield. This town has extensive manufactures of woollen cloths, (which are chiefly sold at Huddersfield and Leeds) also camblets, tammies, and a variety of fancy articles. The stuffs are sold in a building similar to the cloth halls of Leeds. The trade of Wakefield is greatly promoted by the Calder navigation, by means of which large quantities of coals are conveyed to the Ouse, and thence to York, or to Hull.

Market on Friday. Fairs 4th and 5th July, and 11th and 12th November. Houses, 1,959. Inhabitants, 8,593.

WENTWORTH HOUSE, four miles from Rotherham, the seat of Earl Fitzwilliam, is a magnificent structure, fitted up with great elegance. The rooms are adorned with fine paintings, and the museum contains a choice collection of antiquities. The chapel is likewise enriched by some exquisite pictures. The park, consisting of about 1,500 acres, is decorated with several elegant buildings; near the entrance to this mansion is the superb mausoleum, erected by Earl Fitzwilliam, to the memory of his uncle the Marquis of Rockingham. It is a free-stone building, 90 feet in height: the base is of the Doric order, and the second story of the Ionic, over which is a cupola, supported by 12 columns. The interior of the lower story, consists of a room covered with a dome, beneath which is a white marble statue of the Marquis, by Nollekens, standing on a square pedestal. On this pedestal are inscribed his titles, his character by Burke, and some verses by Frederick Montague, Esq. This apartment likewise contains busts of Edmund Burke, Duke of Portland, Frederick Montague, Sir George Saville, C. J. Fox, Admiral Keppel, John Lee, and Lord G. Cavendish.

WETHERBY, seven miles from Tadcaster, stands on the river Wharf over which it has a handsome bridge; a little above this bridge is a beautiful cascade, where the salmon may be seen leaping with extraordinary adroitness.

Market on Tuesday. Fairs, Holy Thursday, 25 August, and 22 November. Houses, 243. Inhabitants, 1,140.

WHARNSIDE, six miles from Ingleborough, is the loftiest mountain in England and Wales; it is said to be 5,340 feet above the level of the sea. Near its top are several small lakes called Tarns. The prospects from the summit are very extensive.

WHITBY, 12 miles from Scarborough, is indebted for its origin to an abbey, founded here in 650 by Oswy, King of Northumberland. In 1540 Whitby was only a small fishing town, but the erection of alum works in its vicinity, in the 17th century, tended greatly to promote its prosperity, and it has now a fine harbour. Whitby stands on

the banks of the river Eske, which divides it into two parts and over which is a draw-bridge, capable of admitting vessels of 200 tons burthen. The dock yards for ship building, extend along both sides of the river above the bridge, and there are likewise commodious dry docks. The streets are narrow and ill paved, but many of the houses are large and handsome. The poor-house and dispensary are the principal charitable institutions. The town-house is a heavy building, of the Tuscan order. The church stands on a hill, on the east side of the town, and contains some monuments of the Cholmey family, and the tomb of General Lascelles, killed at the battle of Preston Pans. In the lower part of the town is a chapel of ease, and there are several meeting-houses. Of Whitby abbey nothing now remains but the ruins of the church. The air of Whitby though cold is salubrious. In the vicinity numerous petrifactions, and natural curiosities, have been found at various times.

Market on Saturday. Houses, 2,693. Inhabitants, 12,215.

YORK, 199 miles from London, is situated on the Ouse, and is considered the second city in England. It is about three miles in circumference, and is adorned with five bridges, over the Foss and one over the Ouse. The city is divided into four districts, which derive their names from the four city-gates or bars, Mickle-gate, Bootham-gate, Monk-gate, and Walm-gate. York is principally distinguished for its cathedral, which is superior in magnificence to any other Gothic church in Europe: the western front is extremely superb, and the eastern is adorned with elegant niches, and pinnacles, and is remarkable for a very fine window: the lantern tower is ornamented with peculiar taste, and the nave of the cathedral is larger than any except that at St. Peter's at Rome: nearly all the windows are of painted glass, representing subjects of sacred history, and there are numerous ancient and some magnificent monuments. The chapter-house is a fine octagon building, the roof of which is richly painted and interspersed with gilding. In the vestry, amongst other curiosities, is a large ancient horn with a Latin inscription. Adjoining the council-

room, is the ancient treasury, and in a building north-west of the cathedral is the library. Besides the cathedral, there are 21 parish churches within the walls, and three in the suburbs. All Saints, in North-street, is a handsome building, containing some fine painted glass. St. Mary's, in Castle-gate, is distinguished for its beautiful spire. All Hallows, stands in the highest part of the city, and is built with the ruins of the ancient Eboracum; its steeple is a fine specimen of Gothic architecture. St. Dennis, is a handsome building, but is particularly remarkable for a large blue marble, in the choir, under which it is said an Earl of Northumberland is buried. St. Margaret's church has a singular porch, adorned with the signs of the zodiac and other hieroglyphics. Of the magnificent abbey of St. Mary, on the north side of the city, only a small part of the church or cloisters now remains, together with some spacious stone vaults. Near the entrance of the city by Mickle-gate, is an ancient gateway, which formed the portal to the Priory of the Holy Trinity. The castle, now used as the county gaol, stands on the banks of the Ouse, and the Foss, and is supposed to have been built by William the Conqueror. It is considered one of the most commodious and best regulated prisons in the kingdom, being furnished with an elegant chapel, a well of excellent water, separate apartments for the felons and debtors, as well as for the males and females. The new county hall or basilica, a handsome structure of the Ionic order, was erected in 1777, and contains a court for the trial of felons and another for civil causes. Near the castle is a high mount, on the summit of which stands Clifford's tower, commanding a fine view of the city and vicinity. The mansion-house is a commodious building, erected in 1726, and contains some fine portraits. The Guildhall, built in 1446, is a noble edifice, in which are preserved some paintings on glass. The theatre was erected in 1770. The magnificent assembly rooms were designed by the Earl of Burlington, and are laid out with much taste and judgment: they are well attended, particularly during the races. The race-course is about a mile from the city on a plain called Knavesmire. The new walk along the Ouse, is a fine gravelled terrace, shaded by

lofty trees. There are several charitable institutions, amongst which may be noticed the lunatic asylum, the county hospital, the dispensary, the two charity and several Sunday schools. A considerable trade is carried on in gloves and drugs, as well as in printing and bookselling: the river Ouse is navigable for vessels of 120 tons up to the bridge. York is governed by a corporation consisting of a lord mayor, and aldermen, a recorder, two sheriffs, a privy-council, and common-council. There are likewise six chamberlains, a city steward, a town clerk, a sword bearer, a mace bearer, three coroners, a prothonotary, four attornies of the sheriffs' court, a city surgeon, &c.

Markets on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Fairs on 12 May, 29 June, 1 and 10 August, 18 October, 2 November, and every other Thursday for horses and sheep. Houses, 2,743. Inhabitants, 18,217.

ANGLESEA.

Length 23 Miles. Breadth 18. Circumference 80. Square miles 402. Square acres 257,280. Hundreds 6. Market towns 2. Parishes 77. Houses 7,363. Persons 38,300.—Diocese of Bangor.—North West circuit. Members to Parliament 2.

BOUNDARIES.—The Isle of Anglesea is nearly surrounded by the Irish Sea, except on the side where it is divided from the continent by the Menai straits, on which are established five ferries. The form of the island is irregular, being indented with bays, creeks, and other inlets. The climate is in general mild, but from its situation is liable to mists in the autumn; the face of the country is flat, with very little timber, and in general unenclosed.

SOIL.—Although this county presents a dreary aspect, the soil is fertile, being well watered by numerous rivulets, which afford sufficient moisture for cultivation. Ochre, potters' clay, white and yellow fullers' earth, various kinds of breccia for mill-stones, with grey and white marble, abound; and coal, copper, iron, and lead, are also found here. The principal soil is a fine loamy sand.

AGRICULTURE is more encouraged here than formerly, as the smuggling trade has been nearly destroyed. The manure in general use is lime or marine sand, and, though the earthy stratum is frequently shallow, very considerable crops of grain and grass are regularly produced. Cattle are reared to some extent, which, with barley and oats, form important articles of export. Sheep and hogs are reared in great numbers. Honey, wax, tallow, and hides, produce great profit to the inhabitants.

MANUFACTURES are not abundant in Anglesea. Linen and woollen goods are made chiefly for the consumption of the inhabitants.

RIVERS in this county are not convenient for navigation, but harbours abound; that of Beaumaris is of con-

siderable importance, which, with its two creeks, is found highly favourable to commerce. Red Wharf Bay is too much exposed for a harbour, but is capable of vast improvements; Dulas Bay is neglected like many other ports of the coast; but Amlwch has been much improved for the convenience of shipping. Holyhead is the principal port, and admits vessels of small size. Aberffraw has been much neglected.

Remarkable Places.

ABERFFRAW, 21 miles from Holyhead, and six from Newburgh, situated at the place where the Ffraw discharges its waters into the bay, was one of the three royal residences of Wales, and the seat of the principal court of justice. Few remains of former splendour exist; the inhabitants are employed in agriculture and fishing. The harbour, though small, is commodious; and here are two meeting-houses. In this place was born Walter Steward, who is said to have been the ancestor of the royal house of the Stewards, or Stuarts, kings of Scotland and England.

Fairs, March 7, Wednesday after Trinity, October 23, and December 11. Houses, 175; inhabitants, 1,054.

ARTHUR'S ROUND TABLE, near Landonna, is a very lofty hill, encompassed by a deep foss, between two lofty valla of rude stones; in the area are the foundations of oval buildings, being the temporary habitations of the occupiers of the fortress. This place must have been almost impregnable, as its natural situation presents a formidable obstacle to an invading enemy. The hill slopes abruptly on all sides, increasing towards the ramparts, and is an object of considerable interest, as the remains of fortifications raised to repel the northern invaders.

BARON HILL, the seat of Lord Bulkeley, is finely seated on an eminence, surrounded by extensive woods. The construction of the house has been often criticised. The grounds are diversified; and the lawns, groves, and bridges, with other ornamental buildings, are tastefully disposed. The view from Baron Hill is very extensive and romantic, and the rides and walks are disposed with taste and judgment.

BEAUMARIS, 249½ miles from London, although a small town, is the capital of the county. The chapel, now the parochial church, is a handsome building. There is a curious monument, exhibiting two figures in gypsum or alabaster; and Lady Beatrix Herbert, daughter of Lord Herbert of Cherbury, was buried in the vestry. The town-hall is a modern building, under which is a prison and shambles; the upper part is not only used for public business but as an assembly-room. The town is governed by a mayor, recorder, two bailiffs, 24 burgesses, two sergeants at mace, town-clerk, &c.; and sends two members to parliament. The county-hall is an inconvenient old building. Among other public buildings are, a custom-house, free-school, alms-houses, &c. Beaumaris Bay is a noble expanse in front of the town, where vessels of considerable burthen ride in safety.

Markets on Wednesday and Saturday. Fairs, February 13, Ascension Day, September 19, and December 19. Houses, 305: inhabitants, 1,810.

HOLYHEAD, 276 miles from London, is situated on a small island at the north-western part of Anglesea. This place is well known as a communication between England and Ireland, and is consequently much frequented. The parish church is a handsome building, with a low spire and square tower. Part of the outside, as well as is the interior, is decorated with rude carved work. Although here are an assembly-room and baths, the town possesses few attractions, and consists of one street and detached buildings. Packets are regularly employed by Government, and are fitted up with every convenience for passengers; the distance between Holyhead and Dublin is twenty leagues. The harbour is formed by the cliffs under the church-yard, and by a small island called Inys Cybi, on which is a light-house. The tide runs rapidly out, and the port becomes a dry harbour, on the eastern side of which there is a fine pier. Vessels can ride at anchor in four fathoms water. The new road is from Cadnant Island, near Bangor Ferry, to the port. In the South Stack, a new light-house, are Argand lamps, at an elevation of 200 feet above the level of the sea. Falcons are found about the rock, and their eggs are eagerly sought for by the poor inhabit-

ants. Holy Island derived its name from the number of pious persons interred there.

Market on Saturday. Houses, 561; inhabitants, 3,005.

LLANELIAN, two miles from Amlwych, has a church, which is here considered singular and almost unique, from the circumstance of its having a steeple. In a closet, called St. Elian's closet, is an aperture in the wall, formerly used by the priests for receiving confessions and returning oracular answers to persons, who made inquiries respecting their future destinies.

LLANERCHYMEDD, near Beaumaris, is a considerable town, but its importance has been on the decline since the opening of a market at Llangefni, which has been found more convenient for commerce. In this parish are the extensive woods of Llygwy, the property of Lord Boston.

LLANGEFNI, 11 miles from Beaumaris, is a village, pleasantly situated in a delightful vale on the mail road to Holyhead, and exhibits a pleasing specimen of the present improved state of agriculture. The town is very neat, and contains a church and two meeting-houses, with excellent accommodation at the inns and market. Houses, 200; inhabitants, 965.

LLANVAES, or LLANFAES, now called the Friars, two miles from Beaumaris, was a monastery, founded in 1237; after undergoing various changes, it now exhibits mere fragments of its former condition. A new house, built near the site, has been recently much improved. The present parochial church of Llanfaes, by which name the priory was also designated, owes its name to a desperate battle which took place near the spot between Egbert and the Welsh, when the former was ultimately driven from the island with considerable loss.

PENMON PRIORY, four miles from Beaumaris, was founded in the sixth century by Maelgwyn Gwynedd, King of Wales. The remains consists chiefly of the refectory, the dormitory, and conventual church, part of which is occupied for service. The church, mansion-house, and dilapidated refectory, form a connected building; the walls are in many parts six feet in thickness. The original shape of the church was cruciform, and in the windows is some painted glass. The interior will

amply repay the antiquary for the trouble of investigation. In the park, which is well stocked with deer, is a very curious old British cross well worthy of notice.

PENMYNNYDD, four miles from Beaumaris, will be ever memorable from having been the residence of the Tudor family, descendants of Cadwallader. In the church is a noble monument of white alabaster, removed from Llanfaes Priory, which, having been the burying-place of the family, was no doubt erected for some of that connexion.

PENRHOS LLWGY, is celebrated as the birth-place of that eminent antiquary and poet, Lewis Morris, who died at Penbryn in 1765, leaving 80 volumes in Welsh manuscript, now in the library of the charity-school in Gray's Inn Lane, London.

PLAS GWYN, half a mile from Pentraeth, is the seat of Paul Panton, Esq. The mansion, which is not remarkable for architectural embellishments, contains an excellent library; and an extraordinary collection of valuable manuscripts connected with the history of Britain.

PLAS NEWYDD, the seat of the Marquis of Anglesea, is an elegant modern structure, well adapted to the scenery which surrounds it. The house has a centre and two wings, the height is three stories, and the whole appearance perfectly chaste. The hall is in the Gothic style, and very lofty. The chapel over the servants' hall is lofty and extensive; the windows contain some painted glass, and the ornaments and style of fitting up are appropriate. The altar is highly ornamented with tabernacle work. The principal staircase is of stone; and the private geometrical staircase is extremely curious. The grounds are enriched with numerous oaks and some fine ash. The sea-baths, green-house, and other objects, add considerably to the general effect.

TRE'R CASTELL, at present occupied as a farm-house, was a castellated mansion, where Sir Tudor ap Gronwy lived in great splendour in the thirteenth century. His cellars were well stocked with that famous Welsh beverage, called Metheglin or Mead, of which Queen Elizabeth had great quantities imported for her own use. Near this place are the remains of Castell Amber Llienawy.

BRECKNOCKSHIRE.

Length 38 miles. Breadth 23. Circumference 106. Square miles 731. Square acres 467,840. Hundreds 6. Market-towns 4. Parishes 67. Houses 8,006. Persons 39,000.—Diocese of St. David's.—South-east Circuit.—Members to Parliament 2.

BOUNDARIES.—This county is bounded on the north and north-west, by Radnorshire and Cardiganshire; on the east by Monmouthshire, and Herefordshire, on the south by Glamorganshire, and part of Monmouthshire; and on the west by Caermarthenshire. This county is the most mountainous in Wales, and the loftiness of the hills renders the air in the valleys very temperate. Although the soil on these lofty eminences is particularly stony, it is rendered fruitful by the streams that flow into the valleys. Provisions are very plentiful, and the markets are well supplied. The principal productions of this county are corn, fish, otter's fur, cloth and cattle.

SOIL.—The Vale of Usk consists principally of a porous and sandy loam, which yields very slender crops, except in wet seasons, but the district, north of the Vale, is more fertile. The hundred of Builth is composed of a dark brown peat, with a subsoil of clay. The upper part of the vale of the Wye, is a brown gravelly soil, but the lower part near Glazbury and Hay is a fine rich loam. The principal mineralogical substances of this county are limestone, coal and iron ore. Coal and iron ore are found in the vicinity of the rivers Twrch and Tawe, at the Drim mountain, and between Blaen Rumney and Bryn Oer: in the neighbourhood of Rhydd Ebbwy, are the Beaufort iron-works Llywn y Pwll and Tavern Maid Sur. Limestone is obtained at Abercynrig, near Brecknock, and at Ffrwdgrech. Fire clay is dug at Dinas Rock, and near the village of Penderyn, where lead ore is occasionally found as well as at Coed y Cymmer. Lumps of copper have been discovered near the banks of the Wye, but no regular vein has been found.

AGRICULTURE.—The system generally pursued in this

county is not well adapted to the nature of the soil. The crops usually grown in the south and south-eastern parts are wheat, barley, oats, rye, potatoes, vetches and turnips. The rotation in the Vale of Usk is generally fallow, wheat, pease or barley, oats, turnips, barley, clover for two years, and then wheat. A better method is adopted by many, viz., fallow for turnips, barley and clover one year, wheat on lay, pease or oats, then fallow again for turnips. The broad-cast method of sowing is principally followed. Wheat and rye produce on an average from 10 to 15 bushels per acre; barley and peas, from 15 to 25 bushels. The scythe and cradle, as well as the sickle, are occasionally used for reaping. The plough chiefly employed is a cumbrous machine, to which are often attached six horses, or oxen; although some of the farmers are beginning to use only two. The Welsh car or sledge is still in use in some parts of the county, although it is nearly superseded by carts and waggons. The chief manures are yard dung, compost and lime. The meadow lands, except in the Vales of Usk and Wye, are not very luxuriant. The commons in the low lands are being gradually enclosed and cultivated, and the mountains are appropriated to the feeding of sheep. The horses, horned cattle, and sheep of this county, are small. The value of land varies considerably; in the Vales, the farms let from 15 shillings to a guinea; and in the mountainous districts from three to seven shillings an acre.

MANUFACTURES.—Numerous attempts have been made to convert the large quantities of wool produced in this county into cloth, but most of them have failed, as the woollen manufacture is in a declining state. The iron works which form the prominent feature in the manufactures of the county are situated at Langrwyne, in the Vale of Clydach; at Llangattock, near the source of the Rumney river; and at Hirwaun. This county carries on a considerable trade in wool, narrow cloths, and stockings.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers of this county are the Wye, the Usk, the Irvon, the Tawe, and the Taaf.

The WYE forms the northern boundary of this county, and separates it from Radnorshire, for a distance of about 34 miles. (See RADNORSHIRE).

The Usk has its source in the Black Mountains, near Trecastle, and after forming part of the boundary between Caermarthenshire and Brecknockshire, takes an eastern direction, by Brecknock and Crickhowell, and enters Monmouthshire; then passing by Usk, Caerleon, and Newport, falls into the estuary of the Severn.

The Irvon is a small river which rises in the hundred of Builth, and discharges itself into the Wye.

The Tawe rises on the southern side of the Black Mountains, and passes into Glamorganshire, at Ystradgunlais, whence it flows into Swansea, and enters the Bristol Channel.

The Taaf rises in Brecknockshire, and flows on to Glamorganshire, where it receives the waters of several streams.

The other rivers of this county are the Lyfni, the Mellte, the Taaf Vychan, the Hepste, and the Honddu.

Canals.—The Brecknock canal commences at the town of Brecknock and is continued to the Monmouthshire canal, near Pont-y-pool. In the southern part of this county are two other canals. One from Swansea, along the Vale of Tawe, passes through part of Brecknockshire, and affords an excellent mode of conveyance for the stone coal and limestone sent to Swansea and adjacent places. The other canal comes from Neath, to which is sent a considerable quantity of the fire clay found at Dinas.

Lakes.—Llynsafeddan or Llynsavaddan, likewise called Llangorse Mere and Brecknock Mere, is the largest lake in this county. It occupies a space about five miles in circumference, and varies in depth from three to fifteen yards. Its borders are marshy, and overgrown with rushes, and the land in the vicinity is extremely flat and uninteresting. This lake abounds with pike, eels and perch.

Mineral Springs.—In a building called the Park, near the town of Builth, are three springs of different qualities, chalybeate, saline and sulphureous; but, owing to the carelessness of the workmen employed to erect a house for the visiters, the waters have been mixed, and are now little frequented. The waters of the Llanwrtyd, called Y Ffynnon Ddrewllyd, or the Stinking Well, are

the most celebrated in the county, and are much frequented during the summer. They are extremely efficacious in scorbutic and scrofulous complaints, and resemble the waters of Harrowgate. At the spring is a handsome house, and a commodious warm sulphur bath for the convenience of visiters.

MOUNTAINS.—This county is traversed by several ranges of mountains. The principal are, the Eppynt hills, which extend from the north-east boundaries of Caermarthenshire, as far as Llyswen on the banks of the Wye and the chain of mountains commencing with two hills, called Bannau Sir Gaer or the Carmarthenshire beacons, and terminating on the southern bank of the Usk, near Crickhowell. The highest parts of this chain are two adjoining peaks called the Van or Beacon, or the Bannau Brecheinog, or Brecknockshire Beacons. They are situated five miles south-west of Brecknock, and are about 1,000 yards above the level of the sea. Another chain of mountains rises on the east side of the county at Talgarth, and is here called the Black Mountains, Mynydd y Gahair, or Chair mountain, but on entering Herefordshire, it is called the Hatterell hills.

Remarkable Places.

BRECKNOCK or BRECON, 161 miles from London, the chief place of this county, is charmingly situated at the confluence of the Usk, and the Honddu, whence it is called by the Welsh Aberhonddu. The town is irregularly built, and is about 1,700 yards in length, and 400 in breadth: some of the streets are good, and many of the houses handsome. Brecknock is a borough, and sends one member to parliament: it consists of three parishes, St. John the Evangelist, St. Mary, and St. David's. The church of St. John the Evangelist stands on an eminence overlooking the Honddu, and formerly belonged to the priory: the steeple is a lofty and massive building, and the church contains numerous monuments. St. Mary's church is an ancient building in the centre of the town, and the steeple is a noble pile, 90 feet in height. St. David's church is a small and neat edifice in the suburbs on the northern banks of the Usk. Christ Church College likewise stands in the suburb of St. David's, near

the bridge. The establishment consists of a dean, who is always the bishop of the diocese, a preceptor, treasurer, chancellor, and 19 prebendaries; the buildings consist of a church, a dwelling-house, which has been the residence of several bishops of St. Davids, a barn, and outhouses, a school-room, and several cottages. The original foundation appears to have been a monastery of Black Friars, and attached to the present building is a grammar-school. The county gaol is modern, and stands near St. David's church. Hats and woollen cloth are the principal manufactures. The town is particularly distinguished by two public walks, one of which is along the banks of the Usk, and commands a fine view of that river; the other is situated in the priory woods, overlooking the Honddu. The remains of the castle consist principally of the Keep called Ely Tower, in consequence of having been the prison of Morton, Bishop of Ely, and the supposed scene of his conference with the Duke of Buckingham. Near the castle also are some ruins of the ancient priory, founded in the reign of Henry I. The mansion-house, now called the priory, belongs to the Marquis Camden.

Markets on Wednesday and Saturday. Fairs, 4 May, 5 July, 10 September, and 17 November. Houses, 771. Inhabitants, 3,196.

BUILTH, 14 miles from New Radnor, a market town, on the southern bank of the Wye, over which there is a handsome bridge, consists principally of two streets. That nearest the river is irregular and dirty, but the other is handsome, and contains some good houses. The church, with the exception of its steeple, is a modern building. At the eastern extremity of the town are a few remains of its castle, which was formerly a place of considerable importance. Llewelyn ap Gryffydd, the last of the native princes who held the regal power, is said to have died near this town where the Irvon falls into the Wye.

Market on Monday and Saturday. Fairs, June 27, October 2, and December 6. Houses, 190. Inhabitants, 815.

CIL HEPSTE Waterfall is formed a short distance above the confluence of the rivers Hepste and Mellte.

The united stream falls in one immense sheet into a deep stone basin from a rock about 50 feet in height. The only path connecting one side of the valley, with the other passes between the rock, and the cataract which forms a natural arch over it.

CRICKHOWELL, six miles from Abergavenny, is a neat small borough and market-town, on the banks of the river Usk. It is governed by a bailiff, elected annually. The town-hall, where the lord of the manor holds his court, is situated over the market-place. The church is built in the form of a cross. A short distance east of the town are the ruins of the castle, consisting of a tower, one of the angles, and a lofty mound.

Market on Thursday. Fair on 12 May. Houses, 147. Inhabitants, 611.

HAY, 15 miles from Brecknock, is a borough and market-town, on an eminence, on the banks of the Wye, near its junction with the small river Dulais. The houses are mostly small, and the inhabitants are principally employed in trade. A woollen manufactory has lately been established here. The church is small, but contains a curious ancient silver cup. Near the east end of the town is a bridge over the Wye.

LLANGATTOCK, six miles from Abergavenny, is a small village, near the Vale of Clydach, in which the Brecknock canal is conveyed over the river Clydach, by means of an aqueduct about 80 feet above the level of the stream.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, 17 May, 12 August, and 10th October. Houses, 294. Inhabitants, 1,341.

PORTH OGOF is a large and singular cavern, through which the river Mellte flows for 8 or 900 yards. It may easily be entered at low water, but torches are necessary to illuminate the way. The mouth of the cavern is about 20 feet in height, and 40 in width, and the roof is beautifully ornamented with stalactites. The river in its passage through this cavern falls from a considerable height, and by the rushing of its waters into the pool beneath, renders the scene awfully sublime.

SCWD EINON GAM, or Lame Einon's waterfall, is a bold cataract on the river Pyrddin, situated in a vale.

CAERMARTHENSHIRE.

Length 48 miles. Breadth 25. Circumference 120. Square miles 926. Square acres 592,640. Hundreds 8. Market-towns 6. Parishes 37. Houses 15,302.—Persons 79,800.—Diocese of St. David. South-west Circuit.—Members to Parliament 2.

BOUNDARIES.—This county is bounded on the north by Cardiganshire, on the east by Brecknockshire and Glamorganshire, on the south by the Bristol channel, and on the west by Pembrokeshire. The surface of this county in general is hilly, and the vale of Towy, abounding in picturesque scenery, is the most extensive level in Carmarthenshire. Fish is very abundant on the sea coasts, and in the rivers: and coal and lead mines, with the manufacture of woollen stockings, are the chief sources of wealth.

SOIL.—The soil in the valley consists chiefly of a light brown or red mould, well adapted to the growth of wheat or oats; but in the higher grounds the land is a cold blue, or yellow clay, or a dark brown peat on a clayey bottom. The latter is generally used for pasture land. The great difference visible in the soil arises from the variety of its substrata: when the lands cover limestone, they are more fertile than when the substratum is coal, or any other mineral. Limestone is found in this county along the sea-coast near Laugharne, on the other side of Caermarthen bay, near Kidwelly, and on the Black mountains. In the parish of Llangyndeirn are several quarries of marble. The space between the range of limestone, and the southern borders of the county, is principally occupied by coal, interspersed with iron ore. Near Llanelly is found coking coal and iron ore. There are lead mines in the vale of Tywi, six miles from Llandovery.

AGRICULTURE.—Wheat is grown in the low-lands in considerable quantities, particularly in the vales of Llandybie, Tywi and Llangyndeirn, and in the vicinity of St. Clears. The Caermarthenshire farmers may be ranked amongst

the best in Wales, but they are still much averse from alternate green and white crops. The modern system of agriculture is making some progress in this county, and lime is the principal manure. The native sheep are small, but the South Down breed has been introduced, and appears to succeed very well. Rent varies extremely; in the vicinity of Caermarthen, and in the low-lands, ground lets from 6*l.* to 10*l.* per acre, but in the uplands it does not produce more than a few shillings per acre.

MANUFACTURES.—This county is not remarkable either for the extent of its manufactures or commerce; at Llanelly are iron works, and a smelting house: at Kidwelly an iron foundry has been established on a large scale, and at Caermarthen is a manufactory of tin.

RIVERS.—The principal stream of this county is the TYWI or TOWY, which rises near Llyn Teivi, from an extensive morass in Cardiganshire; at a short distance from its source it is joined by the Lesser Tywi, which has its rise in the same morass, and after a devious course through the most romantic scenery, reaches Llandovery, whence it proceeds by Caermarthen and enters the Bristol channel. Amongst the numerous rivers, by which the Towy is augmented, may be noticed

The PYSCOTTWR and the CAMDWR, which rise in the mountains on the west.

The BRAN which joins it near Llandovery.

The SAWDDWY, the CENNEN, the COTHI, and the GWILI. The CORWEN, and the TAAF, unite near St. Clears, and afterwards fall into the bay of Caermarthen at Laugharne.

LAKES.—The principal lake in this county, LLYN TEGWYN, FWYLL YR ESCOB, or the Bishop's Pool, is situated on the highest point of Mynydd Mawr, or the Great Mountain. It is circular, and about half a mile in diameter, but its shores are totally destitute of picturesque scenery. The lake is plentifully stored with fish, particularly perch. On the Black Mountains, near the borders of Brecknockshire, is a lake of limpid water about a mile in length, and surrounded by scenery of the most romantic description. The Sawddwy river derives its source from this lake. There are two other

lakes of minor importance, at the foot of a hill near the banks of the Cothy.

MOUNTAINS.—The whole of this county may be termed hilly, although few of the elevations approach the character of mountains. The northern borders of the county are skirted by a chain, which is with a little interruption connected with Plinlimmon. On the east is the chain called the Black Mountain, in which is to be found the loftiest point in the county, called Y Fan or Ban Sir Gaer, or the Caermarthenshire beacon. It is about 2,600 feet above the level of the sea. Further to the south on another range, is the Bettwys mountain, the highest parts of which are in Glamorganshire.

MINERAL SPRINGS.—Near Briw Nant, in the parish of Cynwyl Gaeo, are two celebrated sulphureous springs, and near Pumpsant, in the said parish, is a chalybeate spring. In the parish of Cynwyl Elved, is the chalybeate spring of Ffosana. There is likewise a chalybeate spring at Job's Well, and another in the parish of Benboyr, but the most frequented mineral waters in this county, are in Middleton Hall Park, where a house has been erected for the accommodation of visiters; the water is chalybeate, and in every respect resembles that of Tunbridge Wells.

Remarkable Places.

ABERGLASNEY, near Golden Grove, is remarkable as having been the native place of Dyer, the author of Grongar Hill, the Fleece and other poems. *Grongar Hill* is an eminence in the vicinity, not far from the river Tywi, which commands an extensive and beautiful prospect. The summit of the hill is occupied by the remains of a Roman encampment.

ABERGWILI, or ABERGUILLY, a village about one mile from Caermarthen, is only remarkable for its church, and for the palace of the Bishop of St. David's. The palace is the only episcopal residence belonging to the diocese: it is situated in the meadows, on the banks of the Towy, and although not in a commanding situation, the scenery in front of it is particularly pleasing. The present occupant of the see is the learned Dr. Burgess.

CAERMARTHEN, 220 miles from London, the capital of this county, is situated on the western bank of the Towy, which here forms a noble river. The guildhall is a spacious and elegant modern building, resting on pillars, with a covered market-place beneath. Outside the town is another market-place, constructed a few years ago. The county gaol is a solid and well-built edifice, and the interior is formed, on the plan of Mr. Howard. There is a stone bridge over the Towy, and at the upper end of the town, is the Parade, a beautiful public walk, commanding a fine view of the river and adjacent vale. Caermarthen is a borough, and sends one member to parliament. In the town is a small manufactory for hats, and in the vicinity are some iron works; Caermarthen carries on an extensive trade in corn, butter, &c., &c., and supplies the neighbouring town with shop goods of various kinds. The town is governed by a mayor, 20 common council-men, two sheriffs, a recorder, town-clerk, sword bearer, and two serjeants at mace. The church, a large neat building, at the northern extremity of the town, consists of two aisles, and a chancel, with a lofty square tower, and contains numerous ancient monuments. In the cemetery of the Scurlock family, is interred Sir Richard Steele, though the monument bears no inscription to that effect. There are several meeting-houses, and a college for the education of presbyterian ministers. The free grammar-school was founded by Dr. Owen, Bishop of St. David's. Some remains of a priory are visible a short distance north-east of the church, and on a lofty hill near the river are the ruins of the castle, formerly a place of considerable importance. Caermarthen is said to have been the birth-place of the celebrated magician Merlin.

Market on Wednesday and Saturday. Fairs, on 3 June, 10 July, 12 August, 9 September, 9 October and 14 November. Houses, 1,199. Inhabitants, 7,275.

CARREG CENNEN CASTLE: the romantic ruins of this fortress are situated about four miles from Llandeilo, on an insulated rock, overlooking the river Cennen. The remains occupy about an acre, and consist of the castle court, several rooms, two square and two circular towers. At Llanduvaen, a short distance east of

this castle, are natural baths, formerly much resorted to; and near this place are some extraordinary excavations.

GOLDEN GROVE, is situated on low ground, on the eastern bank of the Towy; it formerly belonged to the Earl of Carberry, who here afforded an asylum to the pious Dr. Jeremy Taylor, who was chaplain to Charles I., and afterwards Bishop of Downe and Connor. In this house the Dr. composed many of his writings.

KIDWELLY, or CYDWELI, 22 miles from Swansea, is an ancient town, on the banks of the Lesser Gwendraeth, over which there is a fine stone bridge. The town is divided into new and old, the former occupying the eastern, and the latter the western bank of the river. It is governed by a mayor, 12 aldermen, 12 common council-men, town clerk, clerk of the peace, two bailiffs, two serjeants at mace, &c. The parish church in New Kidwelly is a neat building, with a tower, surmounted by a handsome spire 165 feet in height. This place formerly enjoyed a considerable trade, which has been destroyed by the obstruction of the navigation. The vicinity abounds with coals and iron ore. The remains of the castle are situated on an eminence, on the western side of Gwendraeth fychan.

Market on Friday. Fairs on 24 May, 22 July and 29 October. Houses, 343. Inhabitants, 1,441.

LAUGHARNE is a small town, at the extremity of a bay, near the junction of the rivers Corwen, or Corran, and the Taaf. It is governed by a portreeve, recorder, and two common attornies. The remains of its noble castle are in fine preservation. Dean Tucker, a celebrated literary character, was born here in 1712.

LLANDEILO FAWR, on the western bank of the Towy, 17 miles from Caermarthen, is one of the principal market-towns in this county. The streets are irregular and ill built, although there are some good houses. The bridge is a substantial building of stone, but so narrow that foot passengers cannot pass a carriage on it without considerable risk. The church, in the centre of the town, consists of two aisles, and is dedicated to St. Teilo.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, 20 February, Palm Mon-

day, 12 May, 11 June, 23 August, 12 November, and Monday before Christmas. Houses, 413. Inhabitants, 1,879.

LLANDOVERY, 18 miles from Brecon, a small town on the banks of the Bran, consists of a few straggling and dirty streets. It was a borough, and still retains its officers, namely, a bailiff, aldermen, recorder, town-clerk, serjeants at mace, &c. The bridge is a handsome stone structure.

Market on Friday. Fairs, 31 July, Wednesday after 10 October, 26 November, Wednesday after Epiphany, Wednesday after Lent, and Whit Tuesday. Houses, 285. Inhabitants 1,442.

LLANELLY, is a small but irregularly built place, on the Bury creek. The church is remarkable for having two steeples, one of which is spiral, and the other embattled. Llanelly is indebted for its prosperity to the mineral riches of its vicinity. Coal and iron are found in great abundance, and the iron works are very extensive. In the neighbourhood likewise are some smelting and copper-works.

MIDDLETON HALL, the seat of Sir W. Paxton, is the most splendid mansion in South Wales. The interior is fitted up with peculiar taste and elegance. The grounds are ornamented with numerous plantations, and laid out with great skill. On an eminence at the northern extremity of the park, is a handsome tower, two stories in height, with an embattled parapet; it is dedicated to Lord Nelson, and adorned with appropriate devices.



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CONWAY CASTLE.

CAERNARVONSHIRE.

Length 50 miles. Breadth 29. Circumference 100. Square miles 775. Square acres 496,000. Hundreds 7. Market towns 5. Parishes 69. Houses 9,625.—Diocese of Bangor.—North-west Circuit.—Members to Parliament 2.

BOUNDARIES.—This county is bounded by Denbighshire on the east, from which it is divided by the Conway; it is separated from Merionethshire by the Glas-Llyn; and from Anglesea by the Menai Straits; the other parts are bounded by the ocean. The county possesses an alpine character, and the mountains present a singular appearance, both from their shape and height. The Snowdon chain extends from Conway in the north-east, to Protharian road, comprising the Snowdon and Rhifel ridges, composed of several immense and lofty mountains, and the waters in the valleys forms tremendous cataracts, which are worthy the attention of travellers; the lakes are also numerous.

The SOIL is varied; sand and loam are found on a limestone stratum, in the district beneath the Snowdon mountains, and particularly near the Menai shore; this soil is favourable to the growth of corn and grass. The soil on and near the mountains is of two kinds; where the ground is dry, red loam prevails, with pebbles and stony fragments; on the higher parts the surface is more shallow. Peat prevails in the meadows; here are heaths, wastes and commons. The narrow valleys produce hay, alpine grasses, and rushes.

AGRICULTURE.—The surface of the district of Llyn, may chiefly be denominated upland pasture, and the division of land into fields is contrived by stone walls, or earthen mounds. Many black cattle are reared here, and the horses are considered the best in the county. Dairy farms prevail; the cows, like the sheep, are small, but the latter are of excellent flavour. Goats are reared in considerable numbers. The flocks and herds are kept in the mountains during the summer, where the shepherds erect temporary huts. They milk sheep and goats as well as cows, and make butter and cheese both for sale and home consumption. The produce of the arable land is wheat,

barley, oats, potatoes, and turnips. Draining is practised on a limited plan. Irrigation is but imperfectly understood, and the Welsh appear to have an insuperable objection to the agriculturing modes adopted in England. Owing to the coldness of the hills, the harvest is generally late. The principal firing of the country people is peat. The mountains offer so many facilities to the farmer, that almost every one keeps more stock on the land in summer than he can support in the fold during winter; consequently, a considerable number must be sold off on the approach of winter, at any price. The horned cattle are much smaller than those of Anglesea, but the milch kind are considered good milkers. The sheep are the ancient alpine kind, a distinct and curious breed; long legs, slender bodies, and concave shaped necks, are the discriminating characteristics. The breed of goats is not on the increase. The pigs have thin carcases, and are tall, ill-shaped, and with long heads and ears; a few of the Berkshire breed have lately been introduced, and an agricultural society has recently been established.

MANUFACTURES are not encouraged here to any extent, but there is a considerable trade in slates; and machinery has been recently introduced, particularly for carding wool, &c., also jennies for spinning yarn, which in a few instances has been manufactured into cloth. Druggets, and other coarse articles, are manufactured at Tre-Madoc. A paper-mill has been established in the county, and there appears a spirit of emulation amongst the people that must lead to happy and beneficial results.

RIVERS.—The CONWAY, partially attached to this county, is the only navigable river. Caernarvonshire is watered by numerous streams, over which are bridges that present curious objects, from the manner in which they are constructed; their number is so considerable, that fords are almost unnecessary.

Remarkable Places.

BANGOR, 251 miles from London, is a city of very remote origin, and it is said that Condage, a British prince, erected here a temple to Minerva. In 525, Daniel, son of Dinawd, abbot of Bangor-Iscoed, founded a monastery here, and made the place a cell to the prior institu-

tion. A castle was erected here in the reign of William Rufus, by Hugh earl of Chester. The present jurisdiction comprises the whole of Anglesea, with Caernarvonshire, except a few parishes. The cathedral has several times been destroyed, by the various parties who have devastated the country. The present cathedral occupies a considerable space, and is surrounded by a wall, with one side adorned with an avenue of trees, which form a pleasant promenade; the building comprises a choir, nave, transept, two aisles, and a quadrangular tower at the west end; the windows are in the pointed style. The chapter-house, library, and consistorial court, have been added since the cathedral was erected. Many of the windows have painted glass, some of which is modern. The monuments are numerous, and highly interesting. In the library is a curious manuscript, containing the rubric, 32 offices, and numerous anthems set to music for the use of the church and diocese. The free-grammar school, hospital, and public dispensary, are well supported. The palace stands near the cathedral, and has undergone considerable improvements. The city consists principally of one long street, with a fine opening towards the river Menai; the houses are well built and neat, being roofed with slate, and the general appearance of the town is progressively improving. The delightful situation of Bangor renders it a charming place of residence; the numerous walks and rides, together with its contiguity to the sea, cannot fail to interest every tourist.

Market on Wednesday. Fairs, 5th April, 25th June, and 28th October. Houses, 474. Inhabitants, 2,383.

CAERNARVON, 250 miles from London, is delightfully situated, partly on the Menai, and partly on the estuary of the Seiont, where that river receives the tide from the Menai. The town is well built, the streets cross each other at right angles, and are rather narrow. A handsome terrace from the quay to the north end of the town walls, forms a convenient promenade. The church is small and inconvenient. The town-hall is an old, but neat and commodious building. The county gaol is a modern structure, with the town-hall over it. The market-house is modern, and well adapted for the purpose intended. The hot and cold baths were built by the Mar-

quis of Anglesea. This place carries on considerable trade with London, Liverpool, Bristol, and Ireland; but the port, though sufficiently large for shipping, is unfit for a harbour, as the Aber and bank forms a bar at the entrance. The imports consist of wine, porter, coals, grocery, and various other articles; the exports are slates of various kinds. The quay has undergone some judicious improvements. The castle presents some fine remains of its former extent and grandeur. The custom-house is not attractive.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, 12th January, 12th March, 16th May, 26th June, 12th August, 17th September, and 5th December. Houses, 1,008. Inhabitants, 4,595.

CONWAY, 10 miles from Bangor, still contains some portion of its ancient fortifications, and other remains of magnificence, but as a town it does not possess many attractions within the walls. The inhabitants are chiefly poor people, with corresponding habitations. The principal part is occupied by gardens and orchards. The town is governed by an alderman, recorder, coroner, water-bailiff, &c. The port is a dry harbour, frequented by small coasting vessels. The ferry, connected with one of the great roads to Ireland, is esteemed a dangerous passage. The CASTLE, considered to have been one of the most beautiful specimens of early architecture in this country, is now going to decay. The form is nearly a parallelogram, or rather oblong, extending along the verge of a precipitous rock, washed on two sides by a fork of the river; the other sides front the town. The walls are of astonishing thickness, and were flanked by eight vast circular embattled towers, each having a slender machicolated one issuing from the top; four of them have been destroyed, and the roof has shared the same fate. In whatever point of view this magnificent building is seen, no fortified building can exceed its grandeur, and relative proportions.

CRICCIETH, 12 miles from Caernarvon, a market and borough town, of high antiquity, but its present condition is very humble. The remains of the castle arrest the attention of the inquisitive. The fortress stands on an eminence at the end of a neck of land near the sea, which was the principal entrance, and was defended by a double fosse. The remaining towers are quadrangular, and the

interior of the entrance towers are square. After the Conquest, Edward I. appointed William de Leybourn the governor, with an allowance of 100*l.* per annum, out of which he was to maintain 30 stout men, a chaplain, surgeon, carpenter, and a mason.

Market on Wednesday. Fairs, 23d May, 21st July, and 18th October. Houses, 101. Inhabitants, 459.

GWYDIR, or GWEDIR, near Llyn Geironedd, an ancient mansion, erected in 1555, by John Wynn ap Meredith; the buildings are extensive, irregular, and ranged in the quadrangular style. It is the property of Lord Gwydir, and was formerly in the Wynn family. It is not true that this was the first house in Wales that was ornamented with glass windows, although it has been frequently asserted by preceding writers.

NEFYN, or NEVIN, near Caernarvon, was formerly of some consequence, in the annals of the country, but is now a very inconsiderable place. Edward the Conqueror selected this town to celebrate his victory and conquest over a high-minded and noble people. He first held a triumphal revel on Snowden, and then concluded the ebullitions of his joy by solemn rites in the plains of Nefyn. The place was bestowed by Edward the Black Prince, on Nigel de Lohareyn, and made a free borough.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, 4th April, Saturday before Whitsuntide, and 25th August. Houses, 280. Inhabitants, 1,177.

PENRHYN CASTLE, near Llyn Meirig, the seat of the Penrhyn family, has been recently repaired, and materially altered, under the superintendence of Mr. Wyatt. The whole is now fronted with yellow brick, and the interior is neatly fitted up. The chapel has been removed to a distance; the pulpit, composed of cedar and oak, exhibits specimens of basso-relievo, which are generally admired; the window has stained glass. The stables are remarkably convenient and elegant. The entrance to the park is by a noble gateway, in the style of a Roman triumphal arch, and several cascades appear in different parts of the domain. In the vicinity of Penrhyn is a curious mill, to grind chert, quartz, and flints, for the use of the porcelain and delph-ware potteries.

PONT-ABER-GLASLLYN, sometimes erroneously

called the DEVIL'S BRIDGE, connects this county with Merionethshire, and forms the principal communication between them; it consists of one stone arch, of 30 feet, built over a tremendous waterfall, and supported by two perpendicular precipices; there is nothing particularly curious in the bridge, but we may defy any human power to give an adequate description of the awfully sublime and picturesque scenery by which it is surrounded. An impending craggy cliff, 800 feet high, projects from every part of its broken front, consisting of stupendous rocks of the most capricious forms, which shadow a translucid torrent that rages like a cataract amid the huge ruins that have fallen from the mountain. The disjointed fragments of the opposite declivity, crushing their mouldering props, seem scarcely prevented from overwhelming the narrow ridge which forms the road on the brink of the flood. There is nothing presented to the eye but a series of the rudest cliffs, divided by a serpentine chasm, and raised tier upon tier, seeming to bid defiance to the traveller's advance, and prohibit further access to the alpine heights before him.

PWLLHELI, in the parish of Llannor, although a small town, is of commercial importance, on account of its harbour, which enables it to carry on the coasting trade, and is situated on the northern site of Cardigan bay. Herrings are caught on this coast in great abundance, and there is a plentiful supply of that species of fish called john-dorees; smelts, and small lobsters are also found here.

SNOWDON has furnished subjects for poets and painters in every age, and the anxiety of pedestrians to soar towards its summit, has rendered it a place of constant resort. The top is so frequently enveloped in clouds and mist, that unless the weather be unusually fine, it is found extremely difficult to accomplish the journey. When the wind blows from the west, Snowdon is generally enveloped in mist, and even when the weather appears favourable, it will often become suddenly obscured, and in that state remain for several hours. It is generally admitted, however, that the prospects are the more interesting, as they are more varied when the clouds just cover the summit. The best means of ascending the top of Snowdon, says a gentleman who resides near the place, is either to walk,

ride on horseback, or take a chaise to Cwmy Glo-Llanrug, about four miles from Caernarvon; there take a boat up the lower Llan Beris Lake, alias Llyn Padarn, and land on the little isthmus between the pools, just below the old castle Dol Badarn; thence take a guide, and ascend by Cannant Mawr, the great chasm, where there is a fine waterfall, climb along the south side of the ridge separating Llan Beris Hollow, from Cwm Brwynog, another hollow, or mountain flat; then ascend in sight of Llyn Du Yr Arddu, which must be left on the right; the steep rock above the Arddu Pool is celebrated amongst botanists; here the American serotinum grows: then you ascend along a steep place called Llechweddy Re, thence to the famous cold spring, or well, which is within a mile of the highest peak, called Wyddva—the conspicuous

TANY YR ALT, near Tremadoc, is a country seat, in a delightful situation; the house is modern, and exhibits much architectural skill; elevated on a lofty rock, it produces a very pleasing effect at a distance. In the neighbourhood are numerous perpendicular cliffs, full of chasms and fissures, whence fall in wet weather immense pieces of rock, which descend with a tremendous crash, and strew the road with fragments, so as frequently to obstruct the passage.

CARDIGANSHIRE.

Length 42 miles. Breadth 20. Square miles 726. Square acres 464,640. Hundreds 5. Market-towns 6. Parishes 65. Houses 9,923. Diocese of St. David's.—South-west Circuit.—Members to Parliament 2.

BOUNDARIES.—This county is bounded on the east by Radnorshire and Brecknockshire, on the south by Caermarthenshire, on the south-west by Pembrokeshire, on the west by St. George's Channel, on the north by Merionethshire, and on the north-east by Montgomeryshire. An extensive tract, near the sea, on which there were formerly numerous towns, now only possesses a few villages, on account of the ravages of the wars; mountains, appropriated only to the depasturing of sheep, prevail on the northern and eastern parts of this county, and quantities of black cattle are fed in the narrow vales. The lakes are numerous, though small; many of the hills that form the base of Plinlimmon, are in the north-east of Radnorshire. In no part of the county, is a level tract of any extent to be seen; the mountains are destitute of wood, and have a very dreary appearance.

SOIL.—The higher grounds are principally composed of a light loam, with a mixture of sand. The valleys in the lower districts of the county, consist of a brown mould, which yields excellent crops of grass. In other parts the soil is a stiff retentive clay, of a very sterile nature. There are also large tracts of peat or turbary, which is used for fuel. The principal minerals found in this county are silver, copper and lead.

AGRICULTURE.—The principal crops grown are wheat, barley and black oats. Rye is grown in the hilly districts, and buck wheat is cultivated to a considerable extent. The wheat produced in the vale of Ystwyth, is remarkably heavy, weighing from 64 to 67 pounds per Winchester bushel; grey pease, vetches, clover, ryegrass and potatoes are likewise grown in this county. Lime is generally

used as a manure, although marl, sea-weed and peat-ashes have been partially introduced. The agricultural implements of this county are very badly constructed. The horned cattle are chiefly of the black kind, and the native sheep are small. Land seldom lets for more than 15*s*. per acre, except in the vicinity of the towns. The farm-houses and cottages are of the most miserable description.

MANUFACTURES in this county, are of very little importance; coarse stockings and flannels are made in different parts, but very few are exported.

RIVERS.—The principal streams of this county are the Teivi, the Rheidol, the Aeron, the Arth, the Gwyre, the Ystwyth, the Clarach, the Leri, the Elan, the Dyvi and the Claerwen.

The TEIVI rises at the lake of Llyn Teivi, in the mountains on the north-east side of the county, and after flowing by Tregarron, Lampeter and Cardigan, enters St. George's channel. In its course it receives the waters of numerous small rivers, which render it a majestic stream.

The RHEIDOL has its source from the lake called Llyn Rheidol, on the western side of the Plinlimmon mountains; and after flowing through a romantic vale, receives near Hafod Arms, the waters of the Mynach; it then proceeds westward to Llanbadern Fawr, where it turns to the south, and passing by Aberystwyth, enters the Ystwyth, at its junction with the sea.

The AERON rises at the small lake Llyn Aedwen, and flowing through a fertile country, by Llangeitho, Tal Sarn, and Abergaeron, falls into the sea.

The ARTH has its source from the small lake Llynfach, and running westward, discharges its waters into the sea at Aberarth.

The GWYRE springs near Llanfihangel Lledrad, and after a south-western course, falls into the sea.

The YSTWYTH rises near Montgomeryshire, and flows through a precipitous gulf, till it reaches the romantic grounds of Havod, whence it proceeds to the Irish channel. The other rivers of this county are too inconsiderable to require further notice.

Remarkable Places.

ABERYSTWYTH, 203 miles from London, is a borough town, delightfully situated on an eminence, between the Rheidol, over which there is a stone bridge of nine arches, and the bay of Cardigan. It is the most populous place in the county, and is much frequented for sea-bathing. The houses are neat, and many of them elegant. In the principal street is a handsome town-hall, with a market-place beneath. The town is governed by a mayor, recorder and common-council. In the vicinity are numerous delightful walks, which have been formed for the accommodation of persons coming here to bathe. Aberystwyth has an extensive herring fishery, and carries on a considerable trade with Liverpool, Bristol, and other places in England, in corn, lead, oak bark, and butter. The ruins of the castle on the summit of a rock, projecting into the sea, have a very picturesque appearance.

Market on Monday. Fairs, Monday before Easter, and 18 December. Houses, 505. Inhabitants, 2,264.

CARDIGAN, the chief place of the county, 233 miles from London, is situated on an eminence, on the river Teivi, near its junction with the sea. It contains several respectable residences, but most of the houses are small and indifferently built. The town is divided into two principal streets, and there is a handsome stone bridge of seven arches, over the Teivi. Cardigan is a borough town, and in conjunction with Aberystwyth and Lampeter, sends one member to parliament. The assizes are held twice a year in the town-hall, which was built in 1764. The new county gaol is a commodious building, erected by Mr. Nash in 1793. The church is an ancient and substantial edifice, but contains no monuments of particular interest. The free grammar-school, was founded by Lady Cornwallis. The town has no manufactory, but carries on a considerable coasting trade. Cardigan castle formerly stood on high ground near the bridge, but only the wall towards the river, and two towers now remain.

Market on Wednesday and Saturday. Fairs, 13 February, 5 April, 8 September and 19 December. Houses, 444. Inhabitants, 2,129.

CROSSWOOD, near the bank of the Ystwyth, is an old and inconvenient house, and is badly situated. The park is extensive and well wooded, but the plantations are injudiciously laid out. This house is one of the seats of the Earl of Lisburne.

The DEVIL'S BRIDGE, about three miles from Hafod, is a stone bridge across a deep cleft, in the rocks beneath which flows the river Mynach. It is supposed to have been constructed by the monks of Ystradfflur or Strataflorida abbey, but having at that time appeared to be a work of supernatural ability, its erection has, by popular tradition, been ascribed to the personage by whose name it is designated. It is called by the Welsh, Pont ar Fynach, or bridge over the Mynach. The approach to the old bridge, being found very steep and inconvenient, another was constructed in 1753, over the original building, and both now remain. The two adjacent valleys which unite near the bridge, afford numerous objects to gratify the admirer of picturesque scenery. Near the Devil's Bridge is a commodious inn, called the Hafod Arms, which was erected by Mr. Johnes, and affords every accommodation the traveller may require.

GLANFRAED, an old mansion near the river Levi, is only remarkable, as being considered the birth-place of Edward Llwyd, the celebrated antiquary.

HAFOD, or HAVOD UCHTRYD, the seat of the late Thomas Johnes, Esq., is situated near the vale of Ystwyth. The present elegant mansion was erected in 1808; and in the exterior, resembles the former building, which, together with a valuable library, was destroyed by fire in 1807. The present library contains a fine collection in Spanish, French and Italian literature; and the rooms are adorned with numerous valuable paintings, and other works of art. The lands in the vicinity were brought into the highest state of cultivation, by the late proprietor, and the whole system of farming greatly improved. The plantations are laid out with great taste and skill; and the grounds are ornamented with cascades,

caverns, &c. On a hill is an obelisk, to the memory of the late Duke of Bedford. In the grounds was also a printing office, now shut up, in which were printed under the direction of Mr. Johnes, his translation of *Froissart's, and Monstrelet's Chronicles, Joinville, and Le Brocquiere's Memoirs*, together with numerous smaller works.

Eglwys Newydd, or New Church, stands on part of the Hafod estate. It was erected by Mr. Johnes in 1803, from designs by Mr. Wyatt, and is built in the form of a cross, with a tower at one end. The altar-piece by Fuseli, is a masterly representation of Christ, and his two disciples at Emmaus. The church contains a fine marble monument by Chantry, erected to the memory of Miss Johnes.

LAMPETER, or LLANBEDR-PONT STUFFAN, 24 miles from Cardigan, is a small straggling town, situated on the western bank of the Teivi. The church is a very ancient building, with a square tower. In the town is a house called the priory, in the garden of which are some remains of walls, and an old yew-tree.

Market on Tuesday. Fairs, on Whit Wednesday, 10 July, first Monday in August, first Monday in September, 19 October, and the first Monday in November. Houses, 142. Inhabitants, 692.



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WYNN STAY.

DENBIGHSHIRE.

Length 48 miles. Breadth 20.—Square miles 731. Square acres 467,840. Hundreds 6. Market towns 4. Parishes 51. Houses 13,455.—Diocese of Bangor and St. Asaph. North-east Circuit—Members to Parliament 2.

BOUNDARIES.—This county is bounded on the north, by the Irish Sea; on the east, by Flintshire; on the south-east, by Shropshire; on the south, by Montgomeryshire and Merionethshire; on the west, by the river Conway, which forms a natural boundary. The surface is pleasingly diversified, and the western part is mountainous as well as the northern, with the exception of the sea-coast from Abergeley to Morfa Rhyddlun. The whole county is interspersed with lakes and murmuring brooks. It is generally barren in the hundred of Isdulas. From the mouth of the Clwyd nearly to its source, a fine tract of country is seen on both banks of the river, and known as the Vale of Clwyd.

MINERALS, &c.—Lead, iron, and coals, have been found in various parts of the county. Iron ore is found on the Ruabon Hills and adjacent parts. Slate, lime, and free-stone also abound; together with an innumerable quantity of plants.

AGRICULTURE has been much encouraged in this county by the benevolent exertions of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn. Two agricultural societies have been established. The shew of cattle and sheep for the annual prizes attracts great attention, and Wynn-stay is the place of exhibition. The Vale of Clwyd produces fine corn, and has excellent pasturage for cattle. The lands near the Dee provide food for the milch kine, and the dairy-land is equal to that of the county of Chester. The elevated parts of the county produce excellent food for live-stock, and cultivation is generally improving up the sides of the hills. In this part the land-holders are certainly attentive to the general improvement of the soil.

MANUFACTURES are chiefly confined to coarse cloth and flannels; stockings are also an object of some conse-

quence; a small trade is carried on in wrought iron; and harps are made to some extent. Although a maritime county, it has no port, therefore commerce is of course excluded. The inland trade is not much facilitated by the present state of the roads, which require considerable amendment.

RIVERS.—The principal are the CLWYD, CONWAY, and DEE; the two latter form its extreme boundaries. Numerous rivulets, which fall into the rivers, either originate here or traverse various parts of the county.

The CEIRIOG, which rises on the western boundary, proceeds easterly, and enters the Dee near Chirk Castle.

The ALUN rises near Llandegla, takes a northerly direction, and, after a circuitous route through Flintshire, flows round the town of Mold, and passes in a southern direction through Hopedale by Gresford, and afterwards joins the Dee near Holt. This river is said to pursue a subterraneous course for a considerable space.

CANALS.—The ELLESMERE CANAL passes through the lower parts of the county; but a deficiency of water has retarded the progress of navigation. A branch has been carried from Pont Cyssyllte to the Dee, near Llangollen, for the purpose of procuring water.

Remarkable Places.

ABERGELEU, seven miles from St. Asaph, is a village of some notoriety as a bathing-place, and is gradually rising into importance; the accommodation, though less splendid than the usual places of summer resort, is comfortable, and encouragement will prompt the inhabitants to further exertions for the benefit of sea-bathers.

ACTON, near Wrexham, the seat of Sir Foster Cunliffe, Bart., was formerly the property of the Jefferies family. In this place was born that extraordinary character George Jefferies, Lord Chancellor of England, known also as JUDGE JEFFERIES; he was educated at the free grammar-school at Shrewsbury, and was removed to Westminster, and thence to the Inner Temple. It is singular that he was never regularly called to the bar, but by his talents and confidence pushed himself into notice. He is represented as a man of pre-eminent abilities, but destitute of principle. The reports, published under the

name of Vernon, were the work of Jefferies, who, having pursued a course of injustice and immorality for many years, became disgraced, and committed to the Tower, where he died April, 1689, and was thus preserved from the infamy of a public execution. It was reported that he was privately interred in the Tower, but on repairing the church in Aldermanbury in 1810, a coffin was found, which was identified as that of Jefferies.

DENBIGH, 218 miles from London, is the county town, situated on the side of a steep hill, nearly in the centre of Dyffryn Clwyd, and commands an extensive view of the surrounding country. This town, although formerly more splendid, presents rather a mean appearance, and consists of one principal street of considerable extent, in which there are a few good houses. The lanes which intersect it contain very humble dwellings. The corporation consists of two aldermen, two bailiffs, 25 capital burgesses, a recorder, two coroners, &c.; and, in conjunction with Ruthen and Holt, sends one member to parliament. The parish church is at Whitchurch. The remains of the castle are still to be seen, and will amply repay the traveller for the trouble of inspecting the noble ruins. Here is a considerable manufacture of shoes and gloves.

Market on Wednesday. Fairs, May 3, July 15, and September 14. Houses, 636; inhabitants, 2,714.

GWYTHERIN, three miles from Llanrwst, a village of considerable notoriety, as connected with the history of St. Wenefrede, who is said to have been buried in the church here, after her decollation and revivification. In this silent retreat her body rested for centuries, but its miraculous powers having increased in the dark ages of superstition, a monk of Shrewsbury occasioned its removal to the reliquary of that place in the reign of Henry I.

LLANDEGLA, two miles from Beaumaris, is celebrated for a sacred fountain, which is much frequented: it is near the church, and considered beneficial for the falling sickness. The patient washes his limbs, makes an offering of fourpence, which is thrown in the well, walks round it three times, and thrice repeats the Lord's Prayer. The ceremony commences after sun-set. If the invalid be a male, he makes an offering of a cock; the offering

of a female must be a hen. The fowl is carried in a basket round the well and the church-yard, after which the votary sleeps under the communion-table, lies down with the bible for a pillow, and with a cloth for a covering. At day-break, after an offering of six-pence, and after leaving the fowl in the church, the ceremony is ended. If the bird dies, the cure is supposed to be perfect, and the disease transferred to the poor fowl. It is truly astonishing, that in this enlightened period this absurd superstition should still maintain its ground.

LLANFERRES was the birth-place of Dr. John Davies, who has highly distinguished himself as a lexicographer and divine. He rose from comparative obscurity by his great talents, and was presented to the living of Mallwyd, a place which became the scene of his future literary fame; one of his most distinguished works is the *Cambrian Dictionary* in Welsh and Latin. He translated the 39 articles into Welsh, and assisted Bishop Morgan in translating the Bible into that language.

LLANGOLLEN, seven miles from Wrexham, is an inconsiderable town, and the few narrow streets which it contains do not present any objects worthy of particular notice. As a thoroughfare to Ireland, it is much indebted to the road trade for support. The surrounding country is so truly picturesque, that many persons are tempted to enjoy a temporary residence here for the convenience of inspecting its environs. The public buildings are the church and the bridge; the latter was erected by John Trevor, Bishop of St. Asaph about 1357, and is considered one of the three beauties of Wales.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, last Friday in January, March 17, May 31, August 21, November 22. Houses, 636; inhabitants, 2,897.

LLANGOLLEN VALE has probably enjoyed equal fame with any other rural spot in the kingdom, and in many instances the enthusiastic descriptions have surprised most of those who have not visited this extraordinary retreat. It is bounded by lofty mountains on each side, the features of which are remarkably bold, occasionally interspersed with prominent knolls and swells, which added to the irregular direction of the vale, often cut by collateral openings, all conspire to exhibit an

endless variety of pleasing scenery. The road, which forms an elevated terrace, furnishes a charming situation for romantic views. The meadows and arable fields, together with the rich verdure that presents itself at the base of the hills, are enlivened by the windings of the Dee, which flows in an endless variety of pleasing forms. In this vale is

PLAS NEWYDD, a small but elegant mansion, which has for many years been the residence of Lady Eleanor Butler and Miss Ponsonby, both of whom allied to Irish families of distinction, prefer the simplicity of a rural life to the gaieties and fashionable frivolities of the age. It must not be understood that they are secluded from the world, for they are on terms of intimacy and reciprocal intercourse with the most distinguished people in the neighbourhood. The grounds of Plas Newydd are extremely interesting, and display all the taste for which the proprietors are so justly celebrated.

LLANRHAIADER, three miles from Denbigh, is a neat village, the principal attraction of which is the church. The east window is curiously ornamented with stained and figured glass in excellent preservation; the subject is the root of Jesse: that patriarch is represented lying on his back, with the genealogical tree issuing from his loins. This tree comprises all the Kings of Israel and Judah down to the Advent of the Messiah, and the branches which encircle the kings present diversified foliage. On the top is the outline of a rose, with an eye in the centre, surrounded with the radiance in the usual style; the corresponding ornament is the race of Lancaster, the latter intimating that the work was finished after the accession of that house. The alms-house in this place is well supported.

LLANRWST, 20 miles from Aberconway, is a small market town on the banks of the Conway; it has but few attractions. The market-hall is spacious, and the streets narrow and irregular. The church is a small mean structure; but the chapel adjoining is an object of considerable interest, having been built by Inigo Jones. The curious carved roof was taken from the church of Maenan Abbey, which stands at the distance of about three miles; the tombs are curious, and the brasses

worthy of notice. The bridge was erected by the same eminent architect, and is a handsome structure consisting of three arches. It has been asserted that the bridge is formed on such exact principles, that on pushing against the large stone placed over the middle arch, the whole fabric is felt in vibratory motion.

Market on Tuesday. Fairs, April 25, June 21, August 9, September 17, and December 11. Houses, 470; inhabitants, 2,502.

PONT Y CYSSYLLTE Aqueduct, near the Llangollen and Ruabon road, is a noble specimen of the prodigious powers of human contrivance. It is 988 feet long, and consists of 19 arches; each arch is 45 feet in the span, with the addition of 10 feet of iron-work, in continuation at each end. The piers are of stone, in the shape of pyramids, about 21 feet by 10 at the base, and 12 by 7 at the top, and 116 feet high. On the top of this immense pile is an open trough of cast-iron, through which the water from the Ellesmere canal is conveyed over the river 8,009 feet to the opposite level. Along one side of the canal is a towing path, and a balustrade for the defence of passengers, whether on horseback or on foot. The first stone of this extraordinary building was laid in 1795 by Richard Middleton, Esq., M. P., and erected by the contributions of the nobility and gentry in the neighbourhood and in the adjacent counties.

RUABON, or RHIWABON, five miles and a-half from Wrexham, is but a small village of little interest: the church contains many curious monuments of remote periods. There are several handsome monuments of the Wynn family, and particularly that of the first Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, who is represented standing in a graceful attitude, clad in a loose robe, with his hands and arms extended as in the act of addressing an assembly; beneath are a male and female figure, the likenesses of his son and daughter, both kneeling in a weeping posture, with their hands placed on their breasts. The monument was erected by Rysbrack, and the inscription composed by Dr. King, of St. Mary's Hall, Oxford. There are two monuments of recent date by Nollekens, one of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., the other Lady Henrietta W. W., his wife, erected in 1773.

RUTHIN, 210½ miles from London, is situated at the side of a hill on the bank of the Clwyd, which in this part is very narrow. The remains of the castle exhibit the lamentable decay of human grandeur and ancient magnificence. The town is tolerably neat, but was formerly more populous; the church, though only a chapel to Llanrudd, was formerly a convent of the order of St. Augustine: the roof of the church is greatly admired for its curious sculptured ornaments. The elegant tomb of Dr. Gabriel Goodman is the most conspicuous object. The town-hall, free-school, and gaol, are the principal public buildings. During the fair in 1400, Owen Glyndwr entered the town with a small army, assailed the fortress without success, pillaged the inhabitants, and retreated to the mountains.

Markets on Saturday and Monday. Fairs, March 19, and Friday before Whit Sunday. Houses, 271; inhabitants, 1,292.

WREXHAM, 10 miles from Chester, is a place of tolerable size, and in a flourishing state; being on the great road from Shrewsbury to Chester, it enjoys a considerable road trade. The streets are spacious, and the houses in general well built. The town-hall occupies part of a handsome building, and the other part is appropriated to the business of the markets; the piazzas are occupied as shops, &c. The church is a noble pile, and is ranked amongst the wonders of North Wales; it was built in 1472, except the tower, which was finished in 1506; the windows have a flat pointed arch, and the mullions are ornamented with tracery, &c. The tower is 135 feet high, and is considered a master-piece in architecture; statues of 30 saints, placed in the niches of the buttresses have an elegant and imposing appearance. The interior possesses many attractions; the ceiling of the roof, composed of ribs of wainscot oak, in imitation of the grained work of stone, is very beautiful. There is but little of the old painted glass in the windows. The subject for the altar-piece is the Lord's Supper; it is exquisitely painted, and is ascribed to Rubens. An annual fair is held at this place for Welsh flannels, and various linen and woollen articles, also for horses, sheep, and black cattle; it continues for nine days. A free-school is established here.

Markets, Monday and Thursday. Fairs, March 23, Holy Thursday, June 6, and September 19. Houses, 1,085; inhabitants, 4,524.

WYNNSTAY, the seat of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart. The entrance to the park is by a handsome modern gateway, which opens into a long avenue composed of oak, beech, elm, chesnut, and pine trees, leading to a spacious lawn, on which stands the mansion. Wynnstay Hall is a plain commodious building, erected at different periods, and consequently exhibits various styles of architecture. The ancient part is chiefly occupied by the domestics; and the hospitality permitted here is proverbial: the modern part is very commodious, and fitted up in a good style. In the spacious apartments are some excellent paintings, the greater part of which are portraits of the Wynn, Williams, and Seymour family, and their collateral branches. Here is a portrait of Sir Richard Wynn, gentleman of the bed-chamber to Charles I., when Prince of Wales, by Vandyck, which is greatly admired. A small building connected with the house was formerly fitted up as a theatre, for the amusement of the neighbourhood at Christmas; but is now used for agricultural meetings, in which the present distinguished proprietor takes great delight. The exhibition generally takes place in September, when the nobility, gentry, and yeomanry attend, frequently to the number of six or seven hundred, who are appropriately accommodated, and partake of the hospitality of this far-famed mansion. Considerable improvements have been recently made by the erection of baths, by plantations of trees and shrubs, and by the expansion of a fine piece of water in front of the house, which beautifully reflects the curious trees on its banks. The confluence of several brooks and rills form a torrent, which dashing over artificial stone work, covered with moss and lichen, presents the appearance of a natural cascade. The obelisk, built by Wyatt, is deserving of notice; it was erected in commemoration of Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, father of the present proprietor. Near this place the Dee passes through Nant y Bela, which was much admired by the tasteful Lyttelton.

FLINTSHIRE.

Length 29. Breadth 12.—Square miles 309. Square acres 197,760. Hundreds 5. Market towns 3. Parishes 16. Houses 9,022.—Diocese of St. Asaph and Chester. North-east Circuit.—Members to Parliament 2.

BOUNDARIES.—This county is bounded on the south-east by Denbighshire; and on the south-west, by part of that county; on the north, it approaches the Irish Sea; on the north-east, it is divided from Cheshire by the estuary of the Dee. Flintshire appears like a slip of land dismembered from the adjoining counties. Though this cannot be considered a mountainous country, its surface is much diversified.

SOIL.—The parts rising from the Dee contain an argillaceous soil, highly productive of corn and grass. In the vicinity of Halken, the mountainous tract is sterile: but the interior contains minerals, lead, calamine, interspersed with limestone and chert. The interior parts produce coal and lime-stone; the lower parts abound with well-wooded dingles. The northern part, which is flat, produces good corn, and grass. The eastern part has a bold frontier, called the Clwydeon Hills, the soil of which is a mixture of clay and gravel; the argillaceous predominates. The substratum of this elevated range consists of calcareous substances. Lead ores and coals are found in great abundance; and for the former, in particular, Flintshire has been long celebrated.

RIVERS.—The rivers in this county are not navigable, except the Dee.

The CLWYD enters near Bodfari, and flows into the Irish Sea.

The ALAN rises in this county, and, after a circuitous route, joins the Dee. Other rivulets form contributory streams, as the Terrig, Wheler, Elwy, &c., which supply the numerous mills, and furnish a large quantity of fish.

Remarkable Places.

BACHEGRAIG, near Bodfari, is a curious mansion, formerly the property of Signor Piozzi, in right of his

wife of literary fame. The principal part comprises a hall, with a parlour of extraordinary dimensions; the other parts of the building are carried up to the height of six stories in a pyramidical shape, terminated by a cupola. The building was erected in the reign of Queen Elizabeth.

BANGOR ISCOED, 11 miles from Whitchurch, obtained early notice and subsequent fame as the site of a very early Christian seminary, founded by Lucius, the son of Coel, first Christian King of Britain, anterior to A.D. 180. This college for the dissemination of the Christian faith throughout the island, is said to have been converted into a monastery about 530 by Cynwyl, who constituted himself the first abbot. The monastery was famous for its library; and Speed is of opinion that it was the parent of all other monasteries in the world. Coel introduced among the Britons the grinding-mill with wheels, they having before that period used hand-mills for grinding corn.

DOWNING is the seat of the Pennant family of literary fame. The house is sheltered by woods, and has recently undergone many judicious alterations: the grounds, in particular, have been much improved, The house erected in 1627 is in the form of the Roman H, with the wings gabled. The library is richly stored with books, particularly of history, natural history, and the classics. In the various rooms are portraits and fine subjects of natural history.

FLINT, 204 miles from London, is the county town, and was formerly a Roman station. The castle stands on an isolated rock, near the banks of the Dee, which formerly flowed under its walls. The town is small, but is enlivened by the presence of many distinguished persons, who frequent it as a bathing-place; but, on account of the marshy state of its shores, it is certainly much inferior to Parkgate, on the opposite side of the Dee. The church is a chapel of ease to Northop, and is very small. The guildhall has no particular attractions. The new gaol is a handsome and convenient building for all the purposes intended. The buildings in the town have been, in many instances, suffered to decay. The port can only admit small vessels, but here are regular packets established for Parkgate and Chester.

The market no longer exists; and the population is inconsiderable. Fairs, February 5, June 24, August 10, and November 30. Houses, 311; inhabitants, 1,433.

HAWARDEN, or HARDING, six miles and a-half from Chester, is a neat and well-built town, having a good road, and a canal for the conveyance of coals to vessels navigating the Dee; the one is neglected, and the other entirely disused.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, May 8, October 1, and December 24. Houses, 832; inhabitants, 4,436.

HOLYWELL, or TREFFYNNON, nine miles from Mold. The origin of this spring is ascribed in legendary tale to a miraculous event. A damsel of noble birth (Wenefrede) having attracted the attention of Cradocus, a neighbouring prince, and not encouraging his advances, in a fit of desperation he cut off her head, which rolled down the hill near the church, and immediately a spring of water gushed out. St. Bennet, with a skill that would baffle our eminent surgeons, immediately replaced the head so that the parts spontaneously united, and the resuscitated maid exhibited no other mark but a white line round the neck to attest the miracle. This well was much frequented in days of superstition, but has been long on the decline. The water is considered excellent, and the spring one of the finest in the kingdom: it throws up 20 tons in a minute, which has been ascertained by experiments and calculations.

MOLD, five miles from Flint, is a small market town, situated in a fertile plain, and consists of one street of considerable dimensions. The church is a handsome building of the period of Henry VII.; and the walls are decorated with carvings of various animals in stone; between the arches are figures of angels, presenting shields covered with emblems. The monuments are curious: the epitaph composed by Dr. Wynn for himself, and placed on his tomb-stone during his life-time, is rather eccentric.

Fairs, February 13, March 21, May 12, August 2, and November 22. Houses, 1,033; inhabitants, 5,083.

MOSTYN HALL, near Bagillt, a seat of Sir Thomas Mostyn, is partly ancient and partly modern. The approach to the house is by a magnificent gateway and a

fine avenue of trees. The hall is curiously constructed, and the roof lofty. The rooms are decorated with numerous paintings, statues, busts, bronzes, and other relics of antiquity. The library is well furnished, and contains a great number of manuscripts, many of them richly illuminated. The grounds are laid out with much taste, and exhibit great variety of scenery. The collieries in the vicinity are well worthy of notice.

NORTHOP, three miles from Flint, contains the mother church to the chapel of Flint; it is a large but disproportioned structure, with a handsome embattled square tower. The monuments are curious, and several are of great antiquity; one bearing date 1482 is said to be that of Llenci Llwyd, a celebrated beauty of that period. Coarse pottery is made in the neighbourhood. Here also is found a beautiful clay, similar to that of Stourbridge, used for fire bricks, which are made of various sizes.

Fairs, March 14, July 7, and October 12. Houses, 406; inhabitants, 2,542.

ST. ASAPH, 20 miles from Chester, is a bishop's see, and has an imposing appearance on approaching the town, which is not distinguished for the elegance of its buildings or its size. Amongst the distinguished men who have enjoyed this diocese may be mentioned Morgan, Barrow and Beveridge. Bishop Redman contributed to the restoration of the cathedral in 1482, which constituted the present structure, except the choir. The church is neat; and the east window, decorated with stained glass, is in the style of that at Tintern Abbey; amongst other tombs is that of Dr. Isaac Barrow. The parish church is the only place of worship, the cathedral not being used for that purpose. The palace has been recently improved as a domestic mansion. The buildings in the town are generally low, and form one street. In the neighbourhood of St. Asaph, the vale of Clwyd may be seen to great advantage.

Market on Saturday. Houses, 316; inhabitants, 1,520.



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LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL.

GLAMORGANSHIRE.

Length 48 miles. Breadth 26. Circumference 116. Square miles 822. Square acres 526,080. Hundreds 10. Market towns 5. Parishes 124. Houses 17,860. Diocese of Llandaff.—South-east Circuit.—Members to parliament 2.

BOUNDARIES.—This county is bounded on the north by Brecknockshire, and part of Caermarthenshire, on the east by Monmouthshire, on the south by the British channel, and on the west by Caermarthenshire. This county, on the north, and north-east, is very mountainous; but on the south, and towards the sea, lies a spacious vale, producing good crops of corn. The roads over the mountains are strewed with loose stones from the rocks, and consequently travelling is very much impeded.

The SOIL, on a large proportion of the hills, is a black peat, except in dryer situations, where it is a brown gravelly earth; in the valleys it is a brown fertile loam, which yields good crops of corn and grass. In the southern district, towards the sea, the soil is a fine loam, but on the sea-shores it is generally a rich clay. Amongst the minerals found in this county are, lime-stone, coal, iron-ore, and gypsum.

AGRICULTURE.—The usual crops are, wheat, barley, and oats, but buck-wheat has been lately grown in considerable quantities. Beans, turnips, vetches, and pease, form the principal green crops. Mangell worzell has likewise been much cultivated. The artificial grasses raised in this county are, trefoil, rye grass, and clover. The greater part of the mountainous country is used as pasture for cattle and sheep; and most of the farms are appropriated solely to the dairy. The agricultural implements used here are heavy and ill made. Horses are sometimes employed in teams, but generally oxen. Lime and marl are the principal manures. The horned cattle are an excellent breed, and their milk is rich and plentiful. The sheep may be said to rival the best England breeds, and they produce very fine wool.

RIVERS.—The RUMNEY divides this county from Monmouthshire, but the principal rivers are, the TAAF, the ELY, OGMERE, the NEDD, or NEATH, and the TAWE.

The TAAF, or TAVE, enters Glamorganshire, near Merthyr-Tydvil, and about 12 miles below Merthyr, receives the Bangoed Taaf; it is afterwards joined by the Cynon and the two Rhonddus, and flows by Llandaff and Cardiff, to the estuary of the Severn, which it enters at Penarth bay.

The ELY, or ELWY, has its source in the hills, north of Llantrissent, and after flowing near Llandaff, falls into the Severn at Penarth.

The OGMORE rises in the northern mountains, and passes through the town of Bridgend; it then receives the small river Ewenny, and falls into the Bristol channel.

The NEDD, or NEATH rises in Brecknockshire, north of Pont-neath-vaughan, near which its various streams unite; it then flows through a picturesque valley, receives the Dulas, near Neath, passes that town and Briton Ferry, and falls into the sea at Swansea bay.

The TAWE has already been noticed at Brecknockshire.

MANUFACTURES.—There are extensive iron works at Merthyr Tydvil, consisting of four distinct establishments: at the village of Aberdare are two iron manufactories of considerable size. There are iron works likewise at Neath, and Swansea, and other places in the county. The principal tin-works are at Merlin Gruffydd, near Llandaff, at Aberavon, at Ynis-y-gerwn, a short distance from Neath, and at Ynis-pen-llwch, eight miles from Swansea. Extensive copper works are situated in the vicinity of Aberavon, Neath, and Swansea. At Swansea, and in the parish of Eglwysilian, are large manufactories of earthen-ware. Bridgend has a woollen manufactory on a small scale, where a considerable number of Welch shawls are made. Coarse cloth is manufactured in various parts of the county, and in the vicinity of Swansea are soap-works.

Remarkable Places.

BEWPER CASTLE, considered one of the most ancient residences in this county, was built by a native architect, Richard Twrch, one of the first who introduced Grecian architecture into this country. The ornamental work of the

chapel bears date 1586. The castle is now converted into a farm-house.

BRIDGEND is a neat town, on the Ogmore, and the houses, which are well built, are occupied by families of great respectability. Mr. G. C. Morgan, and Dr. Price, were natives of this place. A woollen manufactory has been established here.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, Ascension Thursday, and 17th November. Houses, 440. Inhabitants, 1,836.

BRITON FERRY, near Neath. Nothing can exceed, on an equal scale, the variety and beauty of the landscape presented by this delightful spot. The house is a neat edifice, but not peculiar in its style of architecture. The grounds are disposed with much taste, under the direction of Lady Vernon. The attraction of enchanting scenery has induced many persons to build handsome houses in this neighbourhood.

COWBRIDGE, 11 miles from Cardiff, consists principally of one large street. The principal public buildings are, the town-hall, market-place, and grammar-school. The corporation consists of two bailiffs, 12 aldermen, and 12 capital burgesses. It is one of the contributory boroughs to Cardiff, and has a voice in the return of a member.

Market on Tuesday. Fairs, 4th May, 24th June, and 29th September.

CAERPHILI, though at present consisting of only straggling houses, was formerly a place of considerable importance. The most respectable houses are inhabited by tradesmen, and persons employed in the manufacture of blankets, Welch shawls, and other woollen goods. The principal object of attraction is the castle, the ruins of which are more magnificent than any other in the kingdom; they are situated on a level tract, with hills on the north and south, and valleys on the east and west sides. Two large and dilapidated towers form the entrance, and beyond it is a moat and gateway, leading into the principal court, in which is the great hall, a noble room 70 feet in length, and 30 in breadth, and two smaller apartments. This side of the castle is adorned with the remains of a grand Gothic archway. At the south-east corner of the building

is the tower called the mint, and adjoining it is the semi-circular fragment of the leaning tower, which is about 80 feet in height, and stands 10 or 11 feet out of the perpendicular. A passage from the mint, which formed a communication with the different apartments, still remains in tolerable preservation.

CARDIFF, the county town, 160 miles from London, situated in a plain on the bank of the river Taaf. The streets are tolerably regular, and many of the houses handsome. This is a borough town, and in conjunction with the boroughs of Llantrissent, Kenfyg, Aberavon, Cowbridge, Neath, Swansea, and Loughor, sends one member to parliament. The corporation consists of two bailiffs, a steward, constable of the castle, 12 aldermen, 12 capital burgesses, &c. The town-hall is a handsome building, in the centre of the town, a short distance from the county gaol, which is built on Mr. Howard's plan. The stone bridge over the Taaf, was erected in 1796. The church, in the centre of the town, is a plain Norman structure, of the 13th century; the tower is more modern than the other part of the building, and is much admired for the beauty of its open pinnacles. In the north-east side of the town are the ruins of a monastery of Grey Friars, and on the north-west are some vestiges of a house of Black Friars. The castle has a grand and venerable appearance; the western front still retains its original character, but the interior has experienced many alterations. The rooms are adorned with some fine portraits and pictures, by Vandyke, Romney, Dahl, Kneller, and other eminent masters. Within the castle grounds are the ruins of the keep, whence there is a delightful prospect. The only manufactory at Cardiff is that of iron hoops, but it has an extensive trade in coals, iron, tin, and shop goods. The new cut admits vessels of 200 tons up to the town quays.

Markets on Wednesday and Saturday. Fairs, 19th June, 19th September, and 30th November. Houses, 491. Inhabitants, 2,457.

DUNRAVEN, nine miles from Cowbridge, is the seat of Thomas Wyndham, Esq. The situation is very romantic, and the view of the sea is particularly grand. The mansion is a modern building in the Gothic style. Caradoc, the celebrated Caractacus of British and Roman

history, resided in the former mansion erected at this place, and some remains of that building are still to be seen.

FONMON CASTLE is the seat of Robert Jones, Esq., and was transferred to Colonel John Jones, a relative of the present family in the time of Charles I. Colonel Jones signed the warrant for the king's execution, and on the restoration suffered in his turn on the scaffold. Here is a portrait of Oliver Cromwell, which is considered the best extant.

GNOLL CASTLE is a noble building on the brow of a hill, overlooking the town of Neath, and is an object of interest from every part whence it can be seen. The grounds have been laid out with a judicious regard to the peculiar features of the surrounding country.

LLANDAFF, two miles from Cardiff, though a bishop's see, and formerly a city of some importance, is only a village of miserable cottages, occasionally interspersed with gentlemen's houses. The only object demanding attention is the cathedral, the ruins of which are particularly interesting. The architecture is a mixture of the Norman, Saxon, and Gothic; but the latter predominates. In the western front, which is remarkably handsome, is the principal entrance; and underneath the arch is the figure of a bishop, supposed to represent one of the earliest bishops of the see. On the north end and sides are rich Saxon doorways; and at the western end is a magnificent square tower. The interior is adorned with elegant Gothic arches; and at the east end is a chapel dedicated to the Virgin Mary. The chapter-house on the south side is a square apartment, the roof of which is supported by Gothic arches, diverging from a pillar in the centre. The new church, erected within the old walls, is of Grecian architecture, and forms a strange contrast to the venerable ruins. The present chapter consists of the bishop, archdeacon, treasurer, chancellor, precentor, and nine prebendaries. Dr. Watson, distinguished by the profundity of his erudition and the liberality of his spirit, was for many years the bishop of this see.

MARGAM, 186½ miles from London. The mansion boasts of some fine remains, which even in 1799 were

much more curious and complete than at the present time. The parish church is a fine specimen of pure Norman architecture, and has been recently repaired; it contains several monuments of the Mansell family. In the midst of the park is an elegant Doric edifice, built in 1787 for a green-house and conservatory, and the orange-trees are probably the best in the kingdom. In two adjoining buildings are numerous oak models of noble buildings in Italy; also statues and antiques of excellent workmanship. In the village of Margam is a curious stone cross, richly carved and ornamented with fret-work.

MERTHYR TYDVIL, 24 miles from Cardiff, is remarkable for the number and extent of its iron-works, which have contributed greatly to its prosperity. The streets and houses are built with great irregularity, and connected together by dirty and narrow lanes. Many of the shops however are large and respectable. Provisions and shop-goods for the supply of the town and neighbourhood are the principal objects of trade. The church is a very neat building. The canal forms an excellent mode of communication with Cardiff.

Markets on Wednesday and Saturday. Fairs, November 18, and December 24. Houses, 2,462; inhabitants, 11,104.

NEATH, 32 miles from Llandaff, is pleasantly situated on the eastern side of the river of the same name. It is a borough town, and shares with Cardiff the honour of returning a member to parliament. Many of the houses are of a superior kind, and the society in the town and neighbourhood is of the best description. The town-hall is a respectable building; and the market is kept underneath it. The church is spacious and handsome. Some remains of the castle may still be traced; the gateway is the most entire.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, Trinity Thursday, July 31, and September 12. Houses, 588; inhabitants, 2,740.

PONT Y PRYDD is an elegant stone bridge over the Taaf. It consists of one arch 140 feet in the chord, and 35 feet above the level of the river at low water. It was built about the middle of the 18th century, by William Edwards, who was a self-taught genius, never having re-

ceived any instructions in architecture. The bridge, on account of the elevation of the ground in the vicinity, cannot be seen from the turnpike road, but may be viewed from the vale to great advantage.

ST. FAGAN'S, three miles from Cardiff, is an inconsiderable place, but celebrated in the *Annals of Welsh History* on account of a battle fought in its vicinity, between Cromwell and those who supported the royal cause, when the Welsh were completely routed.

SWANSEA, 206 miles from London, is a town of considerable importance, and pleasantly situated on the western side of the river Tawe, which is here navigable for ships of very considerable burthen; here are quays and every accommodation for merchantmen and cargoes. The streets are numerous, and many of them well-built. Several new houses have recently been erected in consequence of the resort of company in the summer season for the purpose of bathing. Mount Pleasant is delightfully situated. The town-hall and theatre are modern structures. The principal manufactures at Swansea are earthen-ware and soap. This town carries on an extensive trade in coal, copper, iron, and manufactured shop goods. The harbour is defended by two large and handsome piers, and a cross pier has lately been constructed. Swansea has a corporation consisting of a portreeve, twelve aldermen, two common attorneys or chamberlains, town-clerk, and two serjeants at mace. There is a free-school and several Lancasterian, as well as other schools. The church dedicated to the Virgin Mary, an elegant edifice, with a square tower at one end, contains several fine monuments. At the upper end of the town is St. John's church; and here are several meeting-houses. The ruins of the castle consist of a circular tower, which stands in the centre of the town, and commands a fine view; the apartments which remain are converted into places of confinement. At the burrows and near the pottery are warm and cold salt-water baths. The vicinity abounds with agreeable walks and rides, and the bay is extremely favourable for aquatic excursions.

Markets on Wednesday and Saturday. Fairs, second Saturday in May, July 2, August 15, and October 1. Houses, 1,702; inhabitants, 8,196.

MERIONETHSHIRE.

Length 36 miles. Breadth 34. Square miles 691. Square acres 442,240. Hundreds 5. Market towns 4. Parishes 31. Houses 6,170.—Diocese of Bangor.—North-west Circuit.—Members to Parliament 1.

BOUNDARIES.—This county is partly bounded by the Irish Sea on the west; on the north, by Caernarvonshire; on the east, by Montgomeryshire; and on the south, by the river Dovey. It is extremely mountainous, though not so high as Caernarvon; and the maritime views, the woods, lakes, cataracts, and rivulets, render this county equal in picturesque scenery to any in the principality. The principal mountains are Cader Idris, almost equal to Snowdon, the two Arans, Benllyn, and Towddwy, the Arrenigs, &c.

SOIL.—The mountains contain granite, porphyry, and other unstratified rocks; the smaller hills are composed of mixed schistus. In the valleys is schistus clay, and in the more level parts peat-earth.

AGRICULTURE.—This county is not adapted for agricultural pursuits; the breeding of cattle and the dairy are the principal objects. The pastures in the valleys support the horned cattle; and the high lands form walks for sheep, which share the food with the numerous goats that are seen among the crags. The peat-bogs produce excellent turf, which is the principal fuel. Several of the mountains are private property, and the demarcations are formed with walls; probably 286,000 acres may be enclosed, out of which 35,000 may be considered as improvable wastes; and the marshes on the sea-coast are of this description. Embanking and draining are encouraged; and Sir Robert Williams Vaughan has greatly contributed to the improvement of this district.

MANUFACTURES are similar to those of the other counties; viz., strong cloths, druggets, kerseymeres, flannels, stockings, &c.

RIVERS.—The DEE is formed by two small rivulets, which rise from Aran ben Llyn, and enter the lake of

Pimblemere ; it flows through the vale of Edernion, and passes Corwen into Denbighshire.

The MAW rises in the centre of the county, and pursuing a southerly course to Dalgelley, receives the tributary stream of the Eden.

The DOVEY rises at the foot of the ridge where the pass of Bwlch y Groes forms a communication with part of Montgomeryshire; it passes Dinas y Mowddu, and fertilizes part of the country about Machynlleth, when it re-enters Merionethshire, and pours its stream into the ocean.

The LAKES are Llyn Tegid, near Bala ; Llyn Talyllyn, at the foot of the lofty Cader Idris; Llyn Elider; Llyn Tecwyn ucha and isa ; Llyn y cwn bychan ; Llyn Arrenig, and others of minor interest.

Remarkable Places.

BALA, 36 miles from Holywell, a considerable town, and one of the best in North Wales, consists of one principal street, and a few of smaller size. The town is much frequented in the season for grouse-shooting. The trade of this place is chiefly in stockings, gloves, and wigs.

The market, on Saturday, is well attended.

BARMOUTH, 222½ miles from London. The river runs through the centre of the town, which is built on the sloping side of a rock, and rows of houses stand on ledges like shelves one above the other, and not unlike the appearance of Gibraltar. There is a street built on the strand, chiefly inhabited by fishermen. The appearance of the houses by the side of the rock is very singular and romantic, for in some instances on coming out of one house, the traveller may look down the chimney of another. This is a well-frequented bathing-place, with tolerable accommodation. A small pier has been built here, and about 100 ships belong to this port. The coasting trade employs many hands. The beech forms a charming promenade, and the surrounding country is very romantic.

CADER IDRIS, the parent of the Merionethshire mountains, soaring above the clouds, rises in majestic grandeur from the margin of the lake of Talyllyn. It is very steep and craggy on every side; but the southern

descent to the borders of Talyllyn lake is the most precipitous and nearly perpendicular. Its breadth bears but a trifling proportion to its length. The peak is about 2,850 feet above Dolgelle; and this astonishing mountain is the commencement of a chain of hills in a north-easterly direction, which includes the Arrans and the Arennigs, and is chiefly composed of siliceous porphyry, schistose, quartz, and schorl. The vale of Talyllyn abounds with rich meadows.

CORWEN, 10 miles from Bala, is situated on the southern bank of the river Dee. The church, dedicated to St. Julian, who was archbishop of St. David's, stands in a romantic situation under a vast rocky cliff. Near the church is a cross, sometimes called Glyndwyr's sword. Here is a neat building erected for six widows of poor clergymen in 1750, at the sole expense of William Eyton, Esq., of Plas Warren.

DINAS MOWDDWY, 22 miles from Welsh Pool, is a neat market town, pleasantly situated amidst vales and mountains; it was formerly a fortified town, and the residence of a chieftain. The corporation consists of a mayor, alderman, recorder, and several burgesses. This town having declined in commercial importance, the population is very limited.

Market on Friday. Fairs on June 2, September 10, October 1, and November 10. Number of houses, 45; inhabitants, 225, including the parish of Llan Mowddwy.

DOLGELLEN, nine miles from Dinasmowddwy, is a small market town, but of some consequence as the summer sessions are held here. It is situated in a fertile vale, between the rivers Arran and Wnion, surrounded by mountains; the houses are small and ill-built, and the streets irregular. The church is neat, and contains forms for seats instead of regular pews. The county gaol is the most attractive building in the town, and is modern. The other public buildings are the market-house and town-hall. It has a considerable trade in coarse cloths and flannels. Kerseymeres are manufactured to a considerable extent.

Market on Tuesday. Fairs on May 11, July 4, September 20, October 9, November 22, and December 16. Houses, 550; inhabitants, 3,064.

HARLECH, 27 miles from Bala, although the county town, and supposed to have been a fortified Roman station, is a very insignificant place. The castle is a noble square building, with a circular tower at each corner, and a bastion on each side the principal entrance; the whole is now in a state of decay. The town consists merely of a few miserable cottages, without the least accommodation for strangers; the population is too inconsiderable for notice.

TOWYN, 11 miles from Barmouth, is a neat little place well built with stone; the situation is desirable; the convenience of a sandy beach, and a fine view of the ocean, render this a very charming spot for sea-bathing. Numerous families frequent the town and neighbourhood during the season. The church is a respectable building.

TRAWSFYNNYDD, 223 miles from London, is an extraordinary situation for a village, being completely secluded from the rest of the county by enormous hills in every direction; so that it may be considered as isolated from civilized society. The parish is extensive, and contains many fragments which must interest all antiquaries; on the common is the causeway of Helen; part of a road, said to have been constructed by order of Helena, daughter of Eudda, and wife to the Roman Emperor Maximus. It is evidently a work of the Romans, both from its formation and the numerous tumuli which are seen near it, and perfectly correspond with those made for interment adjacent to public roads. At some distance is a large upright stone, called Llech Idris. Near the road are some remarkable stone monuments on the graves of the men of Ardudwy; to each there are four pillars, one at each corner; the graves are two yards long. In the neighbourhood are numerous other remains of antiquity.

MONTGOMERYSHIRE.

ength 36. Breadth 34. Square miles 982. Square acres, 628,480. Hundreds 9. Market towns 5. Parishes 49. Houses 9,563. Diocese of St. Asaph, Bangor, and Hereford.—North-east Circuit.—Members to Parliament 2.

BOUNDARIES.—This county is bounded on the north by Denbighshire, on the east and north-east, by Shropshire, on the south-east, by Radnorshire, on the south-west by Cardiganshire, and on the west by Merionethshire. The climate of this county is various, owing to the irregularity of the soil and surface. The midland, western, and south western districts, are not favourable for corn. The narrow valleys are highly productive in corn and grass. The best arable ground is on the eastern side, where the management of land is similar to that of Shropshire. The valleys are wild and salubrious, the hills are bleak, the westerly winds blow nine months in the year, and the easterly three, usually accompanied by sleet and hail. The greater part of the county is mountainous, and many parts are quite sterile. A line commencing at Plinlimmon, at the southern part of the district, runs in a north westerly direction to Bwlch y Groes, and near Aron Fowddwy, enters the adjoining county, and terminates in the valley of Festiniog; this has been termed the back-bone of Montgomeryshire, and Merionethshire. This line of 50 miles may be traversed without crossing a rivulet, being the parting ridge of the eastern and western streams.

SOIL.—The substance of the vales is chiefly of an argillaceous, and the mountains of a schistose nature; the substance of Plinlimmon range is an homogeneous shale, becoming friable in the air. Northward, from the Severn, the mountains in general retain their shaly and friable character. Limestone strata are rarely found in this district. Lead ore has been found in various parts; coal is scarce in this county, but wood abounds.

AGRICULTURE.—Modes of husbandry in this county are as various as can well be conceived, arising from a diversity of soil, from a spirit of speculation, and from prejudice; about one third of the land is under tillage, the other two are reserved for herbage, the former comprise the vales, and the latter the mountains. Fallowing is adopted in the vales. Although many farmers still pursue the old course of oats, wheat, barley, &c., till the land is exhausted, yet pease, vetches, turnips, buck-wheat, clover, and other crops, have been partially introduced. Hemp is grown in the eastern parts. The Vales of the Severn and Vyrnwy are the best places for fattening cattle, which in this county are the finch-backed kind, short in the leg, deep in the carcase, and of a brindled colour; there is also a mixture of the Devonshire, which are well adapted for the plough. The Herefordshire also have been introduced. There are two kinds of sheep, one is peculiar to the Kerry hills, and supposed to produce perfect wool; the horses or ponies, as they may be termed, range over the mountains, and are a hardy race.

MANUFACTURES.—The south-west part from Dolobren to Llanydloes, and from Berhiew, to Llanbrynmair, is considered the principal flannel district. This article was formerly manufactured by the tedious operation of the hand, but machinery is now brought to their assistance. The manufacturers are the wholesale venders of their own flannels. The farmers and cottagers still make them by the old method.

RIVERS.—The WYE rises on the south of Plinlimmon, and, pursuing an easterly course, is joined by the Bedw, at Llangerreg, and soon after leaves the county.

The SEVERN derives its source from the Plinlimmon, and is superior in a commercial point of view, but not so romantic in its appearance as the Wye. The Severn flows by Powis Castle, and becomes of importance when it reaches Welsh Pool. The Severn receives the waters of the Bacto, the Glusslyn and the Grayling, which also rise on the side of Plinlimmon.

The VYRNWY rising in the vicinity of Bwlch y Groes,

proceeds easterly to Llanfair, and joins the Severn at Llandrinio: the most beautiful fish are found in this river.

The TANANT is met by the Rhaiade, near Llanrhaiadr, and joins the Vyrnwy, near Llansaintfraid Ymmechen.

CANALS.—A branch of the Ellesmere canal passes through part of this county, and the line is subject to the control of the Montgomeryshire canal company; it commences near Llanymyneck, is carried over an aqueduct, and passing Welsh Pool, goes to Gorth Mill near Berhiew.

Remarkable Places.

LLANFAIR is a small neat market-town, near the banks of the Vyrnwy. The river abounds with a vast variety of fish, and affords profitable employment to the poor, and amusement to the affluent. The inhabitants are very dexterous with the harpoon, some of which have three spikes on one handle.

Houses, 354. Inhabitants, 1,855.

LLANYDLOES, 13 miles from Newtown, is a well-built town, and the houses are chiefly composed of heavy timber, with lath and plaster; the situation is agreeable, but the streets are not kept in proper order, and dirt is suffered to accumulate to the annoyance of passengers. The church exhibits a curious specimen of carved work, on the ceiling, the whole of which is of oak. The market-house is built of similar materials with the houses. The manufacture of flannels occupies a considerable number of persons, and a portion of the inhabitants are employed in agriculture. A large manufactory, aided by machinery, has recently been established in the neighbourhood, and has thrown many hands out of employment. Although slate and stone abound in this neighbourhood, they are not much used for building. It is from this place that tourists proceed to traverse the mighty Plinlimmon.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, on first Saturday in April and September, 11 May, 17 July, and 28 October. Houses, 476. Inhabitants, 2,386.

MACHYNLLETH, 32 miles from Montgomery, is a

neat uniform well-built town, at the conflux of the Dulas with the Dovey. It is thought to have been a place of great antiquity, and its present appearance is superior to most of the towns in this part of the principality. The exterior of the church is white-washed, and the interior has no claim to particular notice. The town-hall is a substantial building. The ancient senate house is converted into a stable. The tanning business is carried on here, also the woollen trade, particularly webs. A coarse cloth made here, is used for the Army, as well as for home consumption.

Market on Monday. Fair, 16 May, 26 June, 9 July, 18 September, and 25 November. Houses, 293. Inhabitants, 1,252.

MONTGOMERY, the county town, 169 miles from London, is small, but neat in its general appearance. The church dedicated to St. Nicholas, is a handsome cruciform building, in which, amongst other monuments, is that of Richard Herbert, Esq., father of the celebrated Lord Herbert, of Cherbury, also Magdalene, his wife. The guildhall is a handsome modern building, underneath which is the county gaol. The trade here is very trifling, and not being a thoroughfare, it has no road trade; it is chiefly inhabited by persons of small independent fortune, and the surrounding country adds much to the recommendations of this neat little place. The town is governed by two bailiffs, and 12 capital burgesses, and sends one member to parliament.

Market on Tuesday. Fairs, 1st Monday in March, 26 March, Saturday before Good Friday, first Thursday in May, 7 June, 5 September, 24 October, and 12 November. Houses, 193. Inhabitants, 932.

NEWTOWN, eight miles from Montgomery. Many of the houses in this town are built in the old style, a mixture of wood and brick, but there are several both in the town and its vicinity of a different description. The church is an ancient building, but not remarkable for architectural beauty. Over the altar-piece is a painting, which has been ascribed to Dyer, the poet. The manufactures are chiefly woollen.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, last Tuesday in March, first Tuesday in May, 24 June, 24 October,

and 16 December. Number of houses, 438. Inhabitants, 2,025.

NEWTOWN HALL, a seat of the Pryse family, stands very near the town, in the midst of a delightful park. The family derive their descent from Elystan Glodrydd, one of the five Royal Tribes. The late Sir John Pryse, who was very eccentric, married three wives; the first and second were embalmed, and placed by his bed-side, but the third wife induced him to deposit them in their proper place.

POWYS CASTLE, one mile from Welshpool, the well-known residence of the distinguished family of Powys is situated in a delightful and richly-wooded park, near Pool, on the ridge of a rock. This noble building is constructed of red sand stone. The entrance to the castle is by an ancient gateway, which conducts to the area, round which are the apartments. Several of the old towers are still standing, flanked with semicircular bastions. The views from this place are wonderfully varied and extensive. In the front, two immense terraces rise one above another, from the ascent to the house, by means of a vast flight of steps. This part is ornamented with statues, vases, and antique remains. The building is kept in good repair, though not very frequently visited by its noble proprietor. The mansion contains many family pictures. In the gallery, a detached building, are numerous fine pictures, by the old masters. The hanging gardens, consisting of terrace on terrace, are approached by steps cut out of the solid rock. There are but few remains of the water-works, which were constructed on the French plan.

WELSH POOL, nine miles from Montgomery, is a large and populous town, consisting of one long and spacious street, a smaller one crossing it at right angles, and, several collateral buildings. The town is built of brick, and the uniformity of the houses is very pleasing: it is frequently remarked that it has much the appearance of an English town. The Welsh language is not much spoken in this town, which is considered a more polished place than most others in the principality. It is the chief mart for Welch flannels, and a market for these articles is held here once a fortnight. The church, which does not ap-

pear of great antiquity, is situated on low ground; among the sacramental ornaments is a chalice of solid gold, brought from Guinea, on the coast of Africa, valued at 170*l.*; it was the gift of Thomas Dilton, governor of the English colonies there. The county hall, a great ornament to the town, was built by private subscription. The upper part is for public business, and the lower part is appropriated for trade; underneath is a market-place for the sale of corn. The town is governed by two bailiffs, a high steward, town clerk, two serjeants at mace, &c. The Severn is navigable near this place, and the Ellesmere canal approaches the town.

Market on Monday. Fairs, 2nd Monday in March, Monday before Easter, 5 June, first Monday after 10 July, 12 September, and 16 November. Houses, 717. Inhabitants, 3,440.

PEMBROKESHIRE.

Length 37. Breadth 28. Circumference 140. Square miles 575. Square acres 368,000. Hundreds 7. Market towns 7. Parishes 140. Houses 13,028. Diocese of St. David.—South-west Circuit.—Members to parliament 3.

BOUNDARIES.—This county is bounded by Caermarthenshire on the east, by Cardiganshire on the north-east, by the Irish Sea on the west, and on the south by the Bristol Channel. Most part of Pembrokeshire is tolerably fertile, the waste lands are estimated at 22,220 acres, of which 14,220 are deemed convertible to purposes of agriculture, and 8,000 acres incapable of cultivation. The mountains in the north-eastern parts feed a great number of sheep. On the southern parts, corn in abundance is produced as well as coals and culm; and ironstone is plentiful on the sea-coasts, which are mountainous.

SOIL.—Amongst the various soils of Pembrokeshire are a strong red loam, with a substratum of red argillaceous rock, called Rabb, and a dark grey loam, upon a blue and brown rock, and the greater portion of the face of the county is of the latter description. In some places are numerous porous stones, which imbibe the salts from the sea, and are found favourable to vegetation. There is also a light spongy peat, which is generally found on a clay bottom; and a rich loam of considerable depth, on a substratum of limestone rock, well adapted for the growth of corn.

AGRICULTURE.—The grains cultivated here are wheat, barley, oats, and rye. Turnips are found on the best farms, also pease, but they are not of the best sort. The principal manure is limestone. Draining has been used here to advantage. The implements of husbandry have been much condemned. The farms are of various kinds, and a portion of each is appropriated to the dairy, and the rearing of stock. The wastes are used for sheep walks, or for young cattle. The wool in this county is

not considerable. The black cattle are of a superior breed. A large proportion of the farms are let from year to year, but some proprietors grant leases for three lives; the average of the farms is about 200 acres.

MANUFACTURES are not of the least consequence in this county, and the same observation will apply to canals and minerals.

RIVERS.—The Haven of Milford is formed by the united streams of the eastern and western Cleddaus.

The EASTERN CLEDDAU rises near Blaen y gors, and, after a very devious course through this and the adjoining county, it re-enters Pembrokeshire, and joins the West Cleddau near Haverfordwest.

The WESTERN CLEDDAU rises in the parish of Llanfair Nant y gof, and, after rolling through the county in the most extraordinary manner, meets the Eastern Cleddau at the place before mentioned.

Remarkable Places.

CAREW, five miles from Pembroke. In this small village is an ancient cross, richly ornamented with carved work, and bearing an inscription which has never been deciphered. This monument is formed of one stone, fourteen feet high, three feet at the base, and about one foot in thickness. The church is spacious, and contains several ancient monuments; the rectory-house is a noble building. *Crew Castle* is still considered magnificent, even in ruins. The Crew estate is said to have been one of the royal domains belonging to the princes of South Wales.

FISHGUARD, 14 miles from Cardigan, is situated on a romantic spot by a small bay of St. George's Channel. The houses are in general mean structures, and the streets are extremely irregular. The church has as little to recommend it as the other buildings, and an appearance of poverty pervades the whole town. The herring fishery occupies many hands, and fish is the principal support of the poor inhabitants. The bay is convenient, and capable of vast improvements.

Market on Friday. Fairs, February 5, Easter Monday, Whit Monday, and November 17. Houses, 421; inhabitants, 1,572.

HAVERFORDWEST, 10 miles from Pembroke, one of the most considerable towns in South Wales, is built on the declivity of a hill, and the houses rise one above another in succession to the summit; the streets are narrow, steep,.and inconvenient. Many of the houses are well built, and are occupied by persons of distinction. The guildhall is a modern building, well adapted for the purposes intended. The river Cleddau is navigable for small ships as high as the bridge, and there are convenient quays; the road trade is also inconsiderable. St. Mary's Church is a large and venerable building, and some of the interior ornaments are curious: the other churches are St. Thomas and St. Martin. Of the castle the keep is the only part that remains entire, and this has been converted into a county gaol. The corporation consists of a mayor, 24 common-councilmen, two sheriffs, a bailiff, &c. It sends one member to parliament.

Markets, Tuesday and Saturday. Fairs, April 12, May 12, June 12, July 4, September 24, and October 18. Houses, 652; inhabitants 3,093.

MANORBEER exhibits the ruins of a castle, which was the birth-place of that distinguished philosopher, Giraldus de Barri, who wrote the earliest topographical account of Pembrokeshire. The church contains a monument of the Barri family in excellent preservation.

MILFORD, eight miles from Haverfordwest, is of recent date, and owes its present handsome appearance to the Right Honourable C. Greville, who procured an act of parliament in 1790 to carry his plans into effect; and it is from that period we may date the rise of this increasing place. The houses are well built, many of them spacious, and well adapted for persons of distinction. The accommodations of this place are of the best kind. The church was erected in 1808; the windows contain painted glass. The custom-house and dock-yard are well worthy of attention, and reflect great honour on the spirit and liberality of their projector. Packets are established here for conveying mails and passengers to Waterford. Oysters are found in considerable quantities in the bay of Milford.

Markets on Tuesday and Saturday.

NARBERTH, 12 miles from Pembroke, is a small

village, chiefly supported by the road trade. Some interesting remains of the castle are still to be seen.

Market on Wednesday. Fairs, March 21, June 4, July 5, August 10, September 26, and December 11. Houses, 402; inhabitants, 1,779.

NEWPORT, 244 miles from London, is a poor miserable place, and exhibits every mark of abject poverty. The ruins of the castle will be interesting to the antiquary. In the neighbourhood are several Druidical remains, one of which is a remarkable Cromlech near Pentre Evan.

PEMBROKE, 10 miles from Haverfordwest, is the county town, and has been represented as the dullest town in South Wales; its situation is on a navigable creek of Milford Haven, called Down Pool. The town consists chiefly of one street, and scattered houses; some portion of the ancient gateways remain. It is a borough town, and, in conjunction with Tenby and Wiston, returns one member to parliament. The corporation consists of a mayor, a council, two bailiffs, serjeant at mace, &c. There is but little trade carried on, although the town possesses many local advantages. The two churches are ancient buildings, but devoid of interest. The ruins of the castle are interesting to antiquaries.

Markets, Wednesday and Saturday. Fairs, May 14, Trinity Monday, St. Peter's Day, O. S., and September 25. Houses, 501: inhabitants, 2,415.

PICTON CASTLE is the seat of Lord Milford, and, though built at a remote period, still retains much of its original character, and is in excellent repair. The grounds are very extensive, and possess every advantage of water scenery, being situated near the Haven of Milford.

ST. DAVID'S, 16 miles from Haverfordwest. This ancient city is not remarkable for the beauty of its buildings, or the regularity of its streets. The modern city near the precincts of the cathedral is chiefly composed of one good street of considerable extent; but the markets have been discontinued in consequence of the decrease of the population, and the poverty of the place. The cathedral is a spacious Gothic structure of venerable appearance, in the form of a cross, with a lofty square tower, surmounted by handsome pinnacles at each corner.

The interior contains numerous specimens of curious workmanship, but is in want of repair. The bishop's throne is of exquisite workmanship. The floor is composed of tiles of variegated colours, arranged with much taste. The monuments are numerous, and many of them highly interesting. The BISHOP'S PALACE, of which Bishop Gurder is the reputed founder, is a venerable pile, on the south side of the cathedral; and, like the other noble remains of St. David's, exhibits monuments of former magnificence. Houses, 445; inhabitants, 1,816.

STACKPOOL COURT, the seat of Lord Cawdor, stands on the margin of a narrow valley, which has been converted into an artificial lake. The house is grand and imposing; the interior fitted up in the most sumptuous style; and the noble proprietor has made every arrangement that can render it a desirable residence.

TENBY, 247 miles from London. The singular and romantic situation of this place attracts the notice and commands the admiration of all visiters. It is built on a rocky promontory of considerable height, stretching over the sands towards the south in an extraordinary manner, and at high water is enclosed on every side except the north. The houses are well built, but the streets are irregular. The want of good fresh water is much to be regretted. Tenby is one of the contributory boroughs with Pembroke for the return of a representative to parliament. It is governed by a mayor, aldermen, common council-men, chamberlain, &c. Handsome baths have recently been erected, and fitted up in the best manner, and on a scale far superior to any other in the county. Sir W. Paxton has caused many new buildings to be erected, and Tenby may now be considered a fashionable bathing-place. The carriage road to the baths is a great improvement to the place; and the delightful walks and rides in the neighbourhood cannot fail to prove attractive. The church is a spacious building, but the style of architecture is not remarkable; some of the monuments are finely executed. Few remains of the castle are now to be seen.

Markets on Wednesday and Saturday. Fairs, Whit Tuesday, May 4, July 20, October 20, and December 4. Houses, 265; inhabitants, 1,176.

RADNORSHIRE.

Length 30 miles. Breadth 25.—Square miles 455. Square acres 291,200.—Hundreds 6.—Market-towns 4.—Parishes 46. Houses 4,195.—Diocese of Hereford.—South-east Circuit.—Members to Parliament 2.

Boundaries.—This county is bounded by Montgomeryshire on the north, by Shropshire and Herefordshire on the east, by Cardiganshire on the north-west, and Brecknockshire on the south and south-west. The eastern and southern parts are more productive than the others, which are rude and mountainous, and chiefly appropriated to the rearing of sheep and cattle. Lakes on a small scale are here met with, particularly Llyn Llanbychllyn, Herdwell Pool, Llyn Llanillin, Llyn Gwyn; but the most interesting is between Rhayader, and Aberystwyth. Limestone of excellent quality is found towards the south-east; a lead mine at Cwm Elan; and lead and copper ore at Llandrindod wells. At Llandrindod are excellent mineral saline, sulphuric and chalybeate springs, which are much frequented. There are various other mineral springs.

Soil.—In the upper part of the vale of the Wye, the soil is a dark grey loam; a dark brown soil pervades the lower parts, beyond Builth, and is found favourable to vegetation, and well suited to various modes of agriculture. In the vicinity of Radnor, the land is of a dark-grey colour, and extremely rich; and on the south is a substratum of lime-stone. In the centre of the county the soil is generally a weak clay.

Agriculture.—Wheat, barley, oats, rye, and pease, are cultivated. The principal manure is dung from the farm-yards, and lime is used with great advantage, on the south-east. Irrigation is not general, but some districts have been greatly improved by this practice. The usual ploughing team is, two oxen and two horses. The farms are divided almost equally into arable and grazing land, and the latter is applied to the use of the dairy. The young cattle are reared on the extensive tracts for which this county is remarkable. The land under tillage has

been estimated at 86,000 acres; the meadow, pasture and woods, at 40,000; the sheep walks, at 150,000; the remainder is occupied in mountains and waste lands. The system of enclosing is making considerable progress in this county. The breed of neat cattle is considered superior to most in the principality. The sheep are small, but make excellent mutton. The horses are of moderate size, and very hardy.

MANUFACTURES in this county are inconsiderable; stockings, flannels, and coarse woollens are chiefly made for home consumption.

RIVERS.—The WYE, which is the principal river, takes its rise from the summit of the mighty Plinlimmon, and enters this county near Saran y Coed. Near Rhayader it receives the Elan, and bounding this county and Brecknockshire, continues its course to Herefordshire, by Hay. The beauty of the prospects along its banks have been too often described to require notice.

The ELAN rises in the northern part of Radnorshire, and acquires an extraordinary accession of waters, previous to its junction with the Wye.

The EDWY is also tributary to the Wye, and pours in its waters four miles below Builth.

The MACHWY, or BACHWY, also joins it a few miles' distant from Builth. The smaller rivers are, the ARO, which passes by Kingston; the SOMERGIL, which flows by New Radnor; the LUG, which enters Herefordshire near Presteign, and the TEME, which meandering by Knighton, separates Radnorshire from Shropshire.

Remarkable Places.

ABEREDWY is celebrated for its picturesque situation, near the confluence of the Edwy and Wye; the village is a small miserable dirty place. The church, which crowns the lofty bank of the river, adds much to the pleasing effect of the delightful scenery. Near the village are some remains of Aber Edwy Castle, which was formerly the residence of Llewelyn ab Gruffydd, the last native prince of Wales who wore the ensigns of royalty.

KNIGHTON, nine miles from Presteign, pleasantly situated on the southern bank of the Teme, consists of several streets, and as the ground is irregular, the streets are

very steep. This place unites with New Radnor, in the return of a member to parliament. The borough is governed by a bailiff.

Market on Thursday. Fairs, Saturday before the first Monday in March, 17th May, 2d October, and 9th November. Number of houses, 230. Inhabitants, 952.

PRESTEIGN, 14 miles from Leominster, is considered the neatest and best built town in Radnorshire. The church is a handsome building, and surrounded by a cemetery, through which are public walks. The assizes are now held in the town-hall of this place, instead of at Radnor. Presteign is governed by a bailiff. A free-school was established here in the reign of queen Elizabeth. Near the town is a circular hill, called Warden, adorned with plantations and delightful walks, which are much frequented.

Market on Saturday. Fairs, 9th May, 20th June, and 11th December. Houses, 239. Inhabitants, 1,114.

RADNOR (NEW) 24 miles from Hereford, although formerly the county town, is now a miserable village, consisting chiefly of thatched cottages. The church is a respectable building. The destruction of the fortifications of New Radnor is ascribed to Owen Glyndwr. This place was visited by Archbishop Baldwin, and Geraldus, and was the first Welch town at which they preached. It still retains its corporate rights, and has a bailiff, 25 capital burgesses, two aldermen, recorder, &c.

Fairs, Tuesday before Holy Thursday, Tuesday after Trinity Sunday, 14th August, 28th and 29th October. Houses, 75. Inhabitants, 380.

RADNOR (OLD) two miles from New Radnor, consists chiefly of a few miserable cottages. The church is the only object worthy of notice; it is an extensive fabric, with a lofty square tower at the end; the interior exhibits several handsome monuments, and an ornamental screen of curious workmanship. Houses 72. Inhabitants, 327.

RHAYADER, 25 miles from Presteign, formerly derived much importance from its castle, few fragments of which now remain. The town consists of four small streets, which intersect each other at right angles. The church is a modern structure, and the town-hall is in the

centre of the place, with the market underneath. This town is governed by a bailiff, and has a power in the election of a representative in parliament, in conjunction with New Radnor.

Market on Wednesday. Fairs, August 6th and 27th, September 26th, October 14th, and December 3d. Houses, 99. Inhabitants, 446.

THE END.

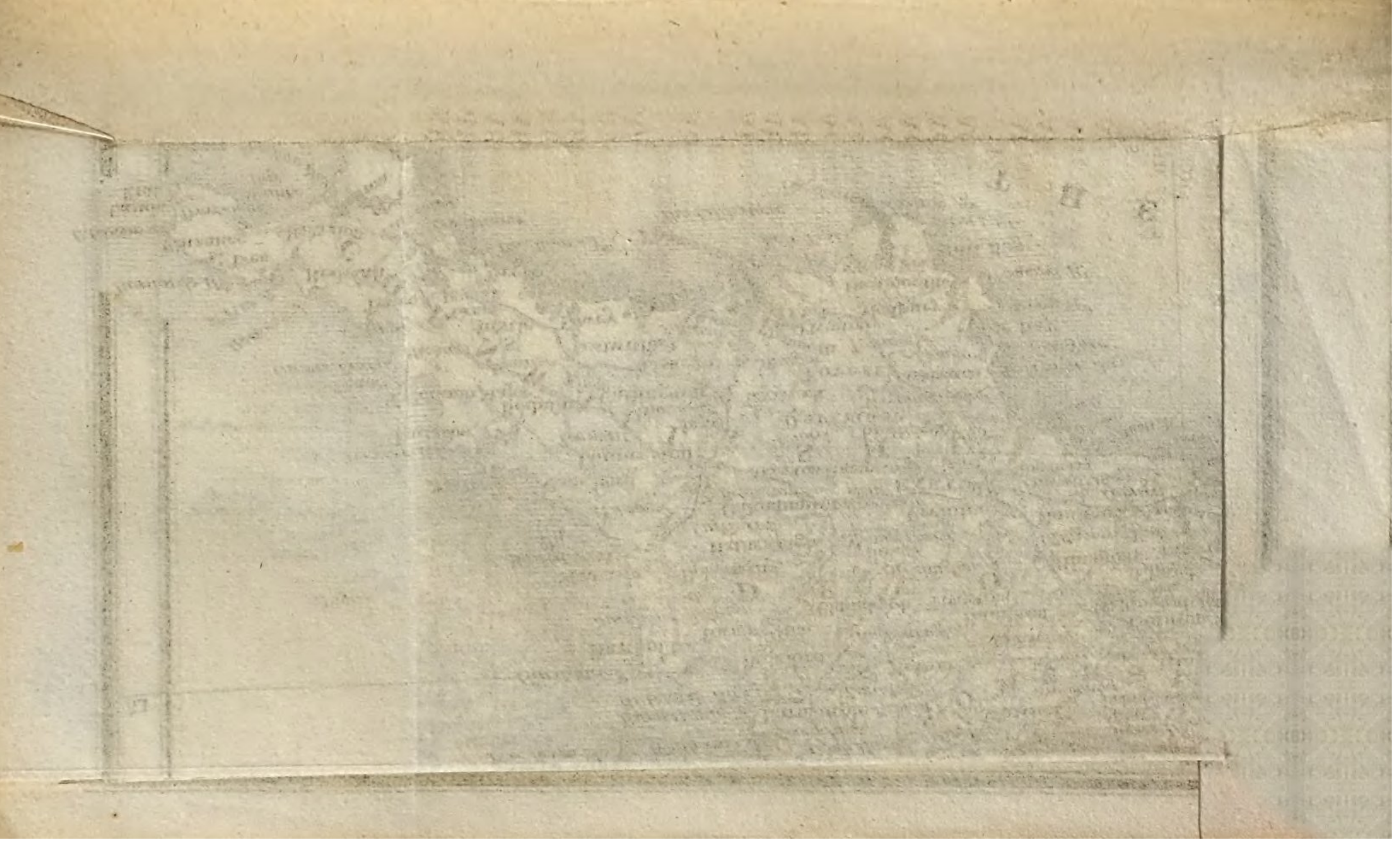
A New Map OF ENGLAND & WALES.

Scale of Statute Miles.

10 20 30 40 50 100

Long: West from Greenwich 0 Long: East from Greenwich

Neele & Son sculp.t 352 Strand.



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